LOG of the CRUISE

80 U S N CONSTRUCTION BATTALION

1943 1944

USNAVY
Caribbean Sea
Dragons Mouth
PORT OF SPAIN
CHAGUANAS
SAN FERNANDO
Gulf of Paria
Atlantic Ocean
Orinoco Channel
Serpents Mouth
N
W
E
S
Trinidad BWI

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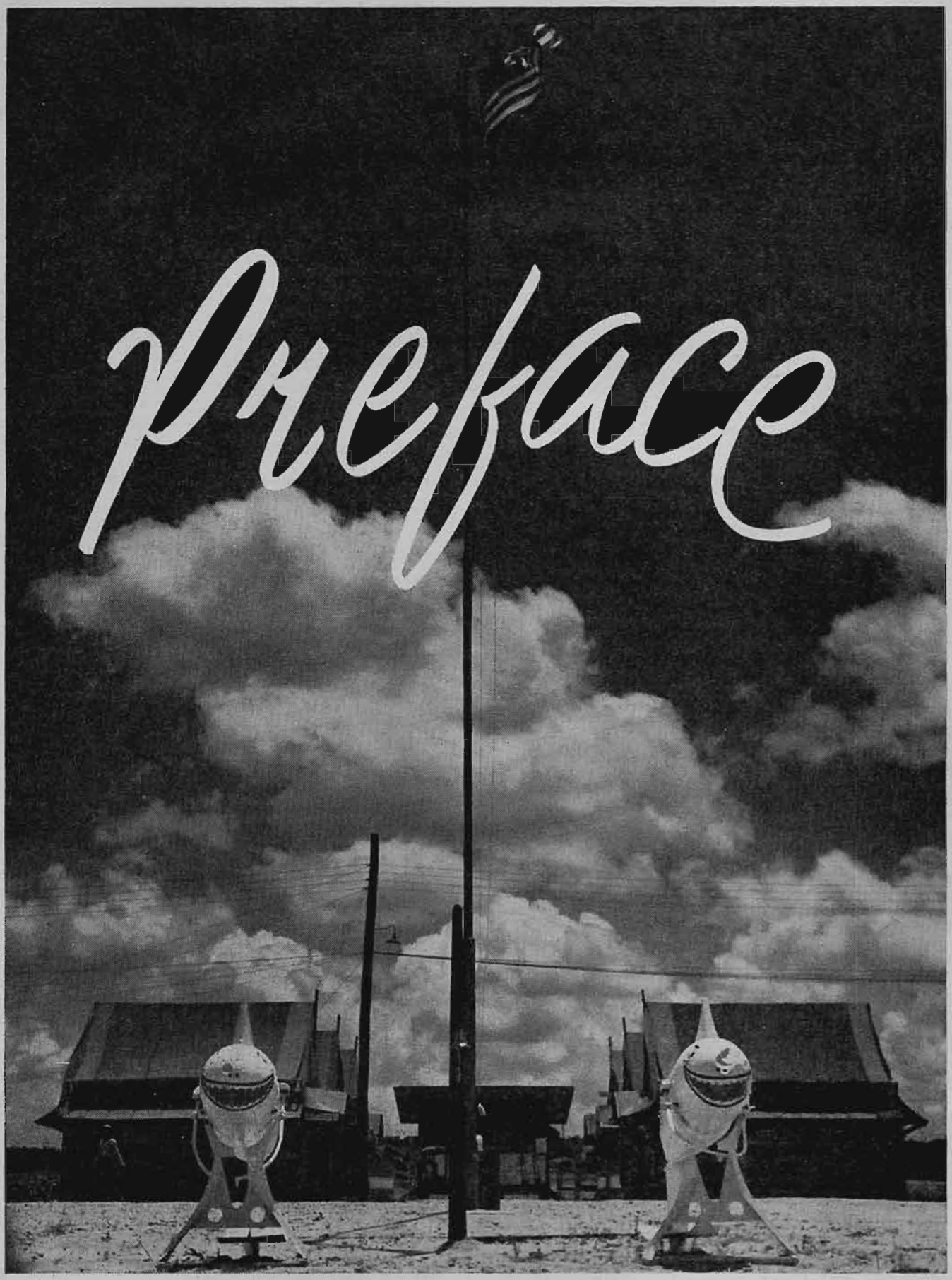
773



Preface

THIS book is dedicated to that which we hold highest, just as it occupies the loftiest position in the picture above:—OUR FLAG and what it stands for—God and Our Country. We dedicate too, this book to the "First Cruise" of the 80th U. S. Naval Construction Battalion, its officers and men; good shipmates all.

"WE'RE THE SEABEES"

The name "Seabees" is relatively simple to explain. They are referred to by the Navy as Construction Battalions, and are in reality advance base fighter-builders. Abbreviated it is "C.B.'s" or phonetically, Seabees.

The insignia of the Seabees is a fighting-mad bee with his white Navy hat defiantly cocked over his scowling brow and wearing the Navy rating badges of Gunner's Mate, Machinist's Mate, and Carpenter's Mate; the insignia appearing against the Navy-blue background and the hawser framing the picture. The Seabee is a fighter —witness the spitting of the Tommy gun. He's a builder, look at the wrench and hammer. He's rough—he's tough—he is a Seabee.

The motto of the Seabee in Latin is "Construimus, Batuimus," which means when translated, "We build, we fight." We have, too another motto, one that is quite informal but describes adequately the physical and mental fitness of the Seabees; it is "Can Do."

But why the Seabees? The answer is really simple. The construction work on the Navy's bases in the Pacific was in the hands of civilian crews prior to the "Remember Pearl Harbor" attack. For the most part these men were unorganized and untrained as fighting men, but bases and more bases were urgently needed and experienced men to build and maintain them were most essential. But these workers must be part of the U. S. armed forces—in uniform—trained and equipped to build—and to fight.

Wake Island fell on the twenty-fourth day of December, 1942, and thirty-two days later the initial Construction Battalion training got under way at Quonset Point, Rhode Island.

Officer personnel of the Seabees are almost invariably graduate engineers. They are the Civil Engineer Corps. Enlisted personnel were recruited from experienced construction workers, machinists, carpenters, shovel and crane operators, steel workers, divers, truck drivers and were enlisted with naval ratings which most nearly conformed to their trades and skills.

Camp Allen, at Naval Operating Base, Norfolk, Virginia, the first formal Naval Construction Training Center, was commissioned on 21 March 1942, and became the nucleus "beehive" to be supplemented later by Camp Bradford, Little Creek, Virginia, and later supplanted by Camp Peary at Williamsburg, Virginia. Camp Endicott at Davisville, Rhode Island, Camp Rousseau at Port Hueneme, California, Camp Hollyday at Gulfport, Mississippi, and Camp Lee-Stephenson at Quoddy Village, Maine, are famous for their output of trained fighting builders.

Camp Allen was usually "home" for the Seabee "Boot" for three to four weeks. Here he learned military tactics, how to drill, how to salute, what makes a pistol, a rifle and a machine gun tick. The what and what not to do with hand grenades and that a bayonet is a potent weapon in the hands of a man whether it is used offensively or on the defensive.

Camps Bradford and Endicott were excellent examples of the type of terrain and the mode of life the builders could expect to encounter on foreign shore.

Within the short span of two and one half years, the Seabees have carved for themselves (to quote the late Secretary of the Navy Knox) "a permanent place in the glorious tradition of our Navy." They were with the Marines when they hit the beach at Guadalcanal. The "4.0" job they did in keeping Henderson Field in operation throughout the offensive of the Japs is something the Marines, the Army, the Navy fleet and air arms will never forget. Tarawa saw Seabee and "gyrene" fall together, only to rise and burrow the Japs from their holes. At Salerno, the Seabees combined with American Rangers and English Commandos to withstand the onslaughts of the Nazis and their famed Tiger tanks. And so it goes: Bougainville, the Admiralty Islands, Green Islands and the Gilberts have seen the Allied forces hit with an irresistible "one-two" punch.

Following the Navy and amphibious forces initial assault, the Seabees complete the assigned task by consolidating the offensive with airfields, roads, supply bases and all other essential and necessary installations.

Admiral Mahan the famed Naval strategist claimed it was the combined strength of ships, men and bases that spelled sea power. Air power has since become a major tenet of naval strategy. Here, too, the landing field and the fueling stop must be in the theatre of combat.

The Navy can be depended upon to have ships and planes where needed. The Seabees will provide them, and that they "Can Do."

80TH U.S. NAVAL
CONSTRUCTION BATTALION

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"Designed and published by the **Bickford Engraving & Electrotype Co.**, 20 Mathewson Street, Providence, Rhode Island, in co-operation with **Chief Carpenter Howard Webb** of the 80th Naval Construction Battalion."

The ladies of the Helping Hand Society enjoyed a swap social one evening. The members each brought something they didn't need.
Many of the ladies were accompanied by their husbands.

—o—

Lady: "I just saw a sailor trying to kiss your daughter."
Mother: "Did he succeed?"
Lady: "No."
Mother: "Then it wasn't my daughter."

—o—

Across Purposes Dept.

Jeanie: "Why did you quit teaching school to join the chorus?"
Queenie: "Well, I think there's more money in showing figures to the older boys."

—o—

"Now, my dear," said the fond mother as her son was leaving to join the Navy, "be sure to get up on time every morning, so that the Captain won't have to wait breakfast on you."

—o—

A German was being led to execution by a squad of Russion soldiers one rainy morning.
"What brutes you Russians are," grumbled the doomed one, "to march me through the rain like this."
"What are you complaining about?" retorted one of the squad. "We have to march back."

—o—

Seabee: "I can't give you anything but love."
Girl: "Well, hurry up, let's have it."
Sailor Sam tells of the navy dentist who got a salute of twenty-one gums.
S2c: "This is an incubator chicken."
Chief: "What makes you think so?"
S2c: "No chicken that had a mother could be so tough."

"Mr. S. P., this sailor is annoying me."
"But lady, he isn't even looking at you."
"I know it—that's what's annoying me."

—o—

Americana

British Sentry: "Halt—Who goes there?"
Soldiers: "British soldiers."
British Sentry: "Pass British soldiers."
British Sentry: "Halt—Who goes there?"
Soldiers: "Free French soldiers."
British Sentry: "Pass Free French soldiers."
British Sentry: "Halt—Who goes there?"
Soldiers: "Whoinell wants to know?"
British Sentry: "Pass Yanks."

—o—

Fast Wagon

A Seabee on leave decided to wing it back to his native Oklahoma by commercial plane. At Phoenix the plane made a beautiful landing, and immediately a little red wagon rushed up to refuel it. Next stop was El Paso, and again a little red wagon rushed up. Same thing in Fort Worth. Up dashed the little red gasoline wagon, and the plane was off again. As it cleared the ground a passenger turned to the Seabee and said, "These planes certainly make wonderful time." "Yeah," the Oklahoman drawled, "and that little red wagon ain't doing bad either."

—o—

She: "I'll say you are one of those fierce lovers."
Sailor: "But I haven't even touched you."
Girl: "Yes, and that's fierce!"

—o—

Sailor: "Say, just look at that beautiful girl!"
Marine: "Yes, she's a sight for shore eyes!"

—o—

Seabee: "Where will you meet me tonight?"
Girl: "Half way."

BUY ANOTHER WAR BOND AND BACK UP THE RIGHT SIDE !

COMMANDER HARRY CANTEY, JR.

COMMANDING OFFICER

STAFF

LT. COMDR. ROBERT L. COOPER, CEC-V(S), USNR
247 Kimbrough Street, Memphis, Tenn.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

LT. COMDR. ROBERT L. COOPER, CEC-V(S), USNR, Executive Officer—Born 1 March 1902, Arlington, Tenn. —B.S. in Electrical Engineering from Georgia Tech. 1924 —Connected with engineering and construction companies in Memphis, St. Louis, and Indianapolis—Around 1939, member U. S. Department of Forestry forces operating out of Laconia, N. H.—Prior to entry in Naval Service in 1942, Asst. County Engineer stationed at Memphis—Company Commander with the 3rd U.S.N. Construction Battalion—Later Asst. Public Works Officer at Allen, Bradford and Camp Peary—July 1943 ordered to duty as Executive Officer of the 80th to succeed Lt. F. F. Kravath —After arrival on Island "X" was promoted to Lt. Comdr.

LT. HERBERT A. SARGENT, CHC-V(S), USNR
Nelson, Mo.

CHAPLAIN

LT. HERBERT A. SARGENT, CHC-V(S), USNR, our Chaplain—Born 5 May 1902, Chrisman, Ill.—He has been our spiritual physician for many months —Comes from a long line of Baptist preachers—After graduating from College in 1926, pastored for six years before receiving B.D. Degree in 1936 from Colgate-Rochester Divinity School—From his pastorate at Donaphan, Mo., joined the Naval Reserve in 1942—Indoctrinated at Chaplains' School, NOE, Norfolk, Va.—First assigned to the 80th.

ENSIGN BRUCE M. JONES, SC-V(G), USNR
611 W. Bridge St., Streator, Ill.

LT. (jg) JOHN FORSYTH ALEXANDER, SC-V(G), USNR
The Barclay, Rittenhouse Square,
Philadelphia, Pa.

DISBURSING OFFICERS

ENSIGN BRUCE M. JONES, SC-V(G), USNR—Successor to Lt. (jg) Alexander—Joined the 80th, 22 February 1944—Born 25 January 1914—Spent early days in Streator, Ill.—Graduate of University of Illinois Law School June 1938—Practicing law in Decatur, Ill., 'till he entered the Naval Reserve in July 1943 as Ensign—Prior to indoctrination at the Navy Supply Corps School, Boston, Mass., stationed at Washington Navy Yard—Then ordered over seas for duty with the 80th on Island "X".

LT. (jg) JOHN FORSYTH ALEXANDER, SC-V(G), USNR, our first Disbursing Officer—Will long be remembered as the "Oxonian" of the Battalion—Born 31 March 1915 at Haverford, Pa.—A.B. in 1938 from Princeton University—Law Degree from Harvard University 1942—Then admitted to the Pennsylvania Bar—Has professional connection with a famous law firm in Philadelphia—but never had a chance to practice—Joined the Naval Reserve instead—After attending Navy Supply Corps School in Boston was assigned disbursing duty with the 80th—Promoted to Lt. (jg) 1 July 1943.

MEDICAL OFFICERS

LT. RUSSELL M. JOHNSTON, MC-V(G), USNR, our Junior Medical Officer—Born 27 February 1914, Pottstown, Pa.—Completed his medical course at University of Pennsylvania 1942—Commissioned Lt. (jg) in May, 1942, and ordered to duty with the 80th when Battalion was formed—Promoted to full lieutenant 1 January 1944.

LT. MITCHELL M. TANNER, DC-V(G), USNR, our Dental Officer—Born Malden, Mass., 25 February 1915—While a senior at Tufts College Dental School, Boston, commissioned as Ensign, receiving his Lt. (jg) upon graduation—Resident Interne at Boston Dispensary and Assistant to the Surgeon until called to active duty.

LT. VINCENT J. TESORIERO, MC-V(S), USNR, our Senior Medical Officer—Resident of Brooklyn, New York—Born 13 July 1906—M.D. from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, in 1932—Internship at New York Hospital and St. Mary's Hospital, Brooklyn—Entered private practice; was at same time Asst. Surgeon at St. Mary's and Adelphi Hospitals in Brooklyn.

OFFICERS

LT. (jg) FRANK D. LEIGH
2006 La Branch St., Houston, Texas

PERSONNEL OFFICER

LT. (jg) FRANK D. LEIGH, CEC-V(S), USNR, our Personnel Officer—Born 15 September 1921—Calls Houston, Texas, "home"—B.S. Degree in Mechanical Engineering from Rice Institute, Houston, in May, 1942—Called to duty at Camp Allen, June, 1942—Assigned as Detention Unit Officer—Joined up with the 80th as Personnel Officer.

LT. (jg) CHARLES W. HUNTSBERRY
Valley Pike, Winchester, Va.

ENSIGN CHESTER A. OEHLER
Texas

SUPPLY OFFICERS

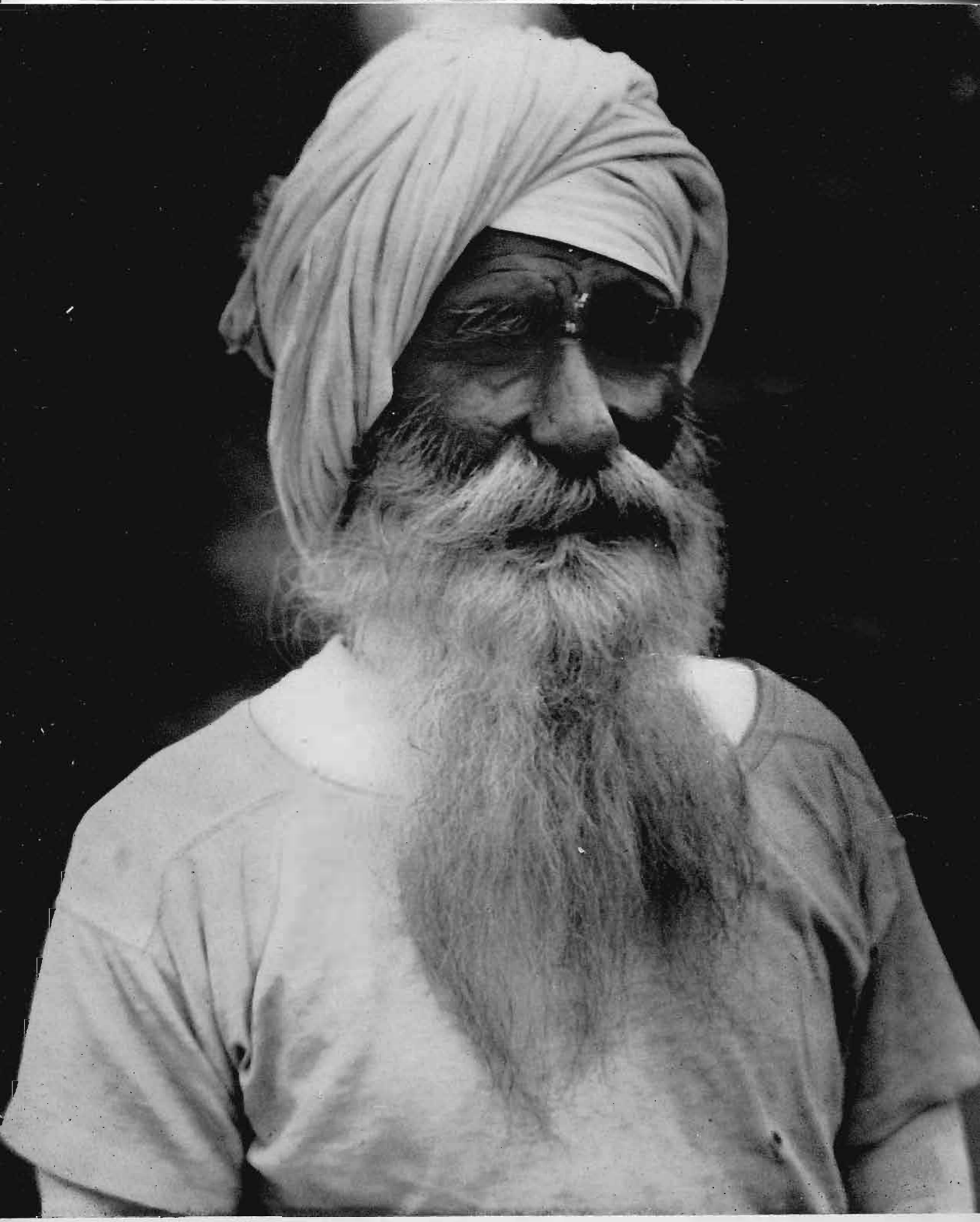
LT. (jg) CHARLES W. HUNTSBERRY, SC-V(G), USNR, our first Supply and Commissary Officer—Born Christmas Day, 1917—Educated in Winchester, Va.—B.S. in Commerce from University of Virginia, 1942—Served two years in the N. ROTC, including a 30-day training cruise at sea—Called to duty at the Navy Supply Corps School, Boston, August, 1942—In January, 1943, began duties with the 80th.

ENSIGN CHESTER A. OEHLER, SC-V(G), USNR, successor to Lt. (jg) Huntsberry—Born 21 May 1915—Hails from Texas—Received B.S. Degree, major: mathematics, South West Texas State Teachers College, San Marcos, in 1939—Received M.A. Degree in 1940—Graduate of Navy Supply Corps School, Boston—Then assigned to the 80th to relieve Mr. Huntsberry.

LT. RUSSELL M. JOHNSTON
Selinsgrove, Pa.

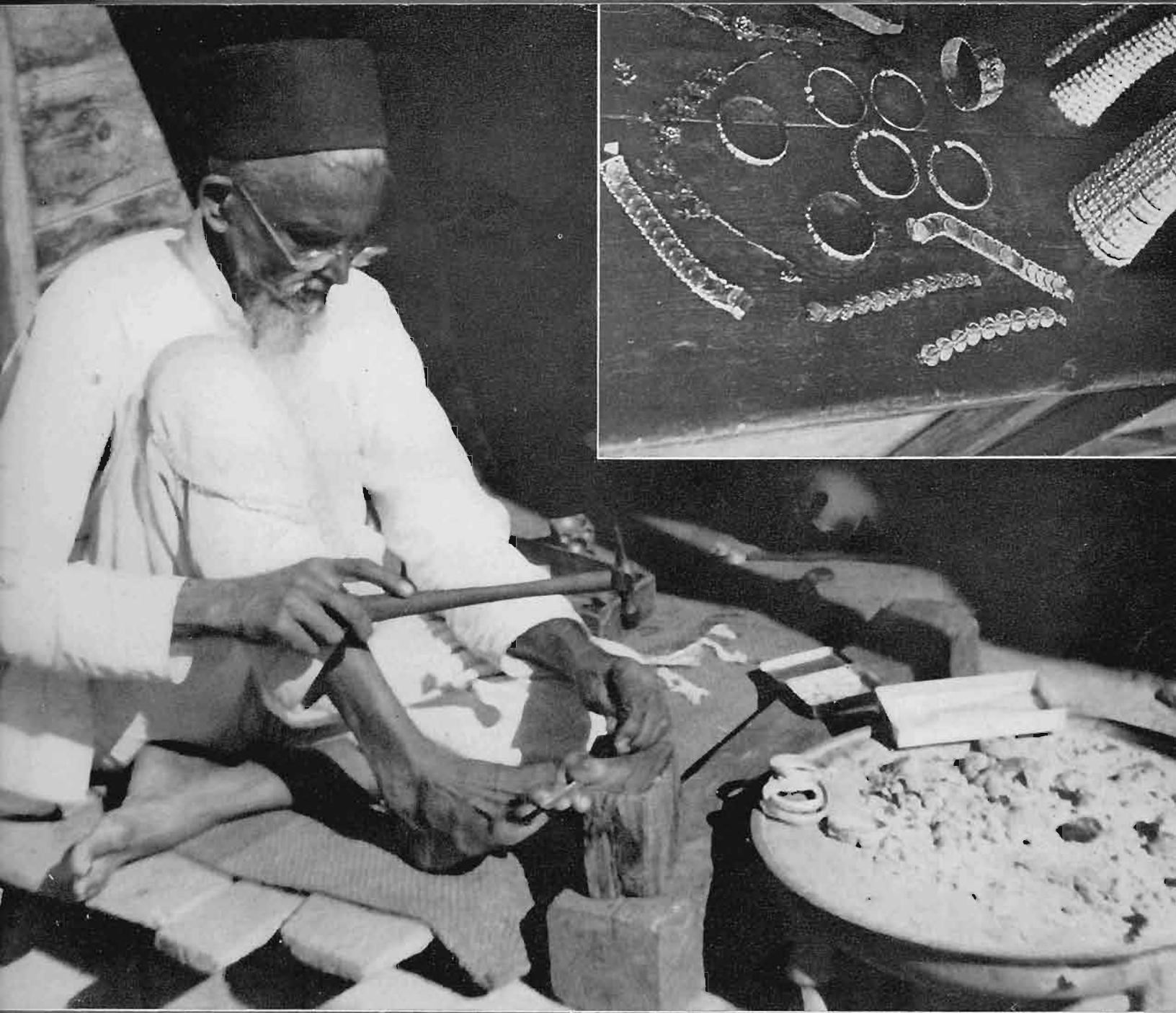
LT. COMDR. MITCHELL M. TANNER
176 Broadway, Somerville, Mass.

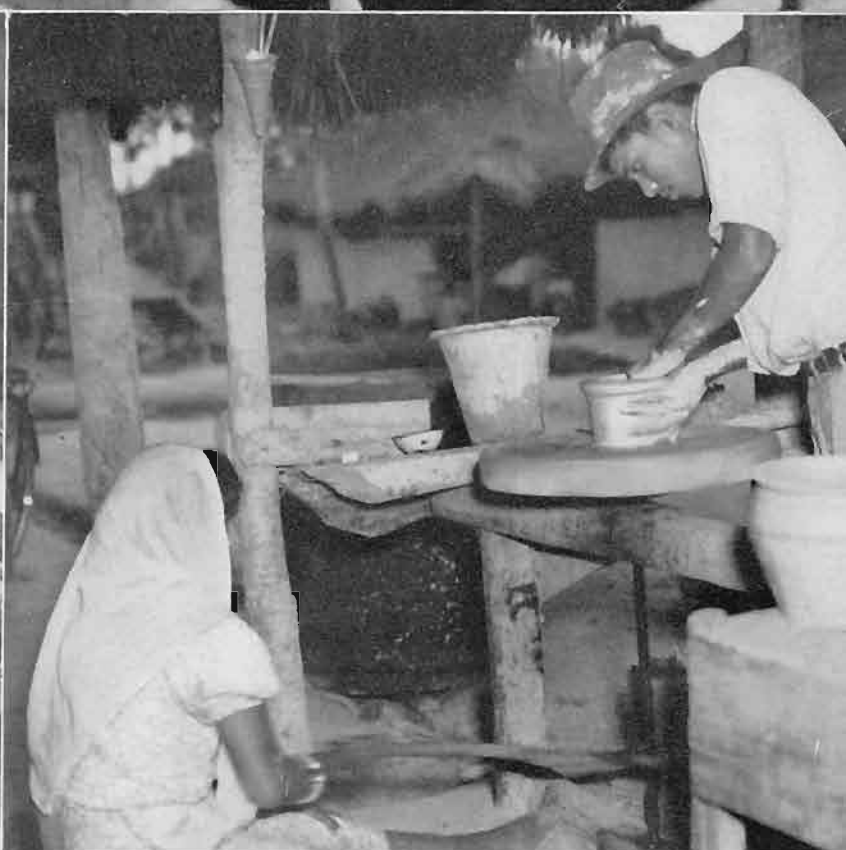
LT. VINCENT J. TESORIERO
249 Lincoln Rd., Brooklyn, New York



A NATIVE PRIEST

Typical of Island "X" is the mendicant who greets you with outstretched palm wherever you may go. On page seven native craftsmen and products are shown: Aged native gingerly holds a "bera" or bracelet between his toes while he carves intricate designs. The only modern touch is the Singer sewing machine which is the proudest possession of the islander.—A potter plies his trade while his wife spends long tedious hours turning the wheel.





ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS

A scene from the Island's beauty spot, the Royal Botanical Gardens, which due to its world-wide popularity was soon discovered by scenic minded Seabees. Its well kept lawns and shady trails were a welcome refuge from daily routine.

Hdq Co

CARP. DEAS O. ALEXANDER,
207 West Thomas Street
Tampa, Florida

CARP. BORDEN C. EIGHMIE,
10 Liberty Street
Stamford, New York

CARP. RALPH H. MOUNT, CEC-V(S), USNR
628 Randall Street
Gadsden, Alabama

LT. (jg) E. LEE HIGGINS, CEC-V(S), USNR
Gladewater, Texas

LT. (jg) E. LEE HIGGINS, CEC-V(S), USNR, Headquarters Company Commander—Born 29 February 1916, Gladewater, Texas—After graduating from High School, entered Texas Technological College, Lubbock, Texas, working towards degree in structural engineering—Prior to commission as Ensign in Naval Reserve engaged in various phases of construction work including Construction Superintendent for Robert E. McKee, Contractors, El Paso, Texas, who constructed $8,000,000 Army Camp —Called to duty with 80th, 8 January 1943—Assigned duty Headquarters Company Commander, Ship's Service Officer and assisting in construction on LTA Project—Promoted to Lt. (jg) January 1944.

CARP. DEAS O. ALEXANDER, CEC-V(S), USNR, Executive Officer of Headquarters Company—Born 14 August 1906, Indianapolis, Ind.—Attended Hume-Fogg High School, Nashville, Tenn., before entering Clemsen College of South Carolina where he studied for two years toward a B.S. degree in Civil Engineering—Migrated to Florida and from 1928 to time of entry in Naval Reserve employed in various phases of electrical engineering, mostly in the state of Florida—Began service as Warrant Carpenter with 80th, January 1943—Has filled several important positions in battalion including Executive Officer Headquarters Company, General Mess Officer until released to duty as Asst. Personnel Officer, OinC Scotland Bay Construction, Native Labor Procurement and Control Officer and Material Procurement and Expediter.

CARP. BORDEN C. EIGHMIE, CEC-V(S), USNR, Warrant Officer, Headquarters Company—Born 14 February 1904, Schenectady, N. Y.—Completed local high school and enrolled with International Correspondence Schools specializing in Civil Engineering, 1928—Prior to entry into Naval Service was associated with Division of Highways, Department of Public Works of the State of New York —Enlisted as CCM(AA) with 2nd U.S.N. Construction Battalion and saw service in the South Pacific from April to December 1942—Returned to U. S. and assigned for further duty with 80th, February 1943 as CCM(AA)—Promoted to Warrant Carpenter June 1943.

CARP. RALPH H. MOUNT, CEC-V(S), USNR, Warrant Carpenter, Headquarters Company—With Carp. Grifin one of the newest officers promoted from the ranks—Born 30 November 1909, Lindale, Ga.—Graduated from Gadsden High School—Had extensive construction experience before entering the Naval Service as CCM(AA) November 1943—Served with Battalion "X" and later joined the 80th—Appointed CCM(PA) December 1943—Promoted to Warrant Carpenter January 1944—Assigned to duty with Headquarters Company supervising general construction on the LTA Project.

Her Galley

HEADQUARTERS COMPANY · PLATOON A

H. E. Baldwin of the Commissary Department, C. W. Hall, surveyor, and R. M. Castell, genial chief-in-charge of the Ship's Service Store, comprise the three Platoon A Chiefs.

As in all Headquarters platoons there are two corpsmen, J. Bizzari and D. R. Coker; two bakers, P. M. Dutton and Ivan Loeppke of the famous "Sunshine Bakery."

With the two capable assistants G. H. Brown, and Ace Keeling, A. O. Blanchard, gunner's mate, supervises operations of the armory.

The galley is well represented with "Joe Doakes" Alford, A. S. Chester, G. T. Bowles, "French" Dennis, "Irby" Alletag and "Shorty" Callahan, with J. P. Alexander and S. Bankston handling the daily food supplies.

The key post in the beer garden is held down by R. A. Jackson; the cobbler shop by H. E. Island; yeoman in the executive office, "Bill" Amory; Chaplain's assistant and librarian, M. E. Hall.

Members of Platoon A's construction department include: "Pee Wee" Grace, electrician; Dan Bell of the gravel plant; J. H. Chambers, heavy equipment; M. Bryant, refrigeration maintenance; "Peanuts" Hermosa and C. Adair members of the survey crews; R. D. Llapitan, Assistant Navy Mail Clerk; O. Conners and P. Bynum, Supply Office men; E. O. Clark and "Marsh" Frazier, Personnel Office; J. R. Coiner, Disbursing Office in Platoon A, and last but not least, J. V. Island, R. Harris and M. Daniels serving as part of the crew most necessary in general maintenance.

ASST. CHIEF BuDOCKS LAUDS BATTALION JOB — BOOSTS "BEEZ-BUZZ"

Stopping over on his flying visit to our sector, Rear Admiral L. B. Combs, CEC, USN, Asst. Chief of BuDocks, visited the Eightieth on 15 March 1944 and recalled having given us our Battalion Colors over a year ago back in Bradford. Addressing the officers, assembled at the Commander's office, the Admiral indicated his real interest in our outfit. He pointed out that the Seabees in this area have done a job which has merited praise from many sources. An assignment may not place an outfit in a so-called "hot zone," it was shown, but the fact that the assignment was made is the best evidence that the job is essential.

Admiral Combs and his party were our officers' guests at noon mess, and later, accompanied by Comdr. L. Miscall, Regimental Skipper, and our Comdr. Harry Cantey, Jr., made an inspection of our camp and the project. Our Harmony Quartet, and singer J. R. Dugas plus Irving "Boogey-Woogey" Baham answered a hurry-up call and put over a "command performance" for our visitor. The Admiral made particular commendation of the Security Guard, whom he surprised going through their precision paces on the drill field. "Beez-Buzz" readers will be particularly interested in the Admiral's boost to our "sheet." He told of looking forward to each issue and his personal copy. Displaying his keen sense of humor, he particularly noted our "Light Side" page and recalled having enjoyed several of our recent offerings, especially the one about the parrot and the limburger cheese.

80TH ARMORY

It is true that we did draw a non-combat assignment this time out, but it could very well have been an operation that called for our backing up that part of our motto which reads, "Batuimus—We Fight!" Our training program adequately prepared us, however, for any eventuality. An outfit may be trained to a point nearing perfection and equipped "up to the minute," but finds itself at a complete disadvantage if the weapons are not properly maintained and repaired.

Under the direction of Carpenter J. W. Snow, Sr., at that time Ordnance Officer, the Battalion Armory came into its own during advanced training at Gulfport. Corpenters Snow and Chief Castell operated the Armory with an efficient and capable crew comprised of Herman P. Fisher, BM2c; George W. Irving, GM2c; Theodore Walker, SF2c; Leon J. Keeling, GM3c; Eddie Wright, S1c; and Hurlen L. Byrd, S1c. These were the men who had issued the small arms to the Battalion, taught the men how to use, keep and repair their pieces, and to keep them at all time, "ship-shape."

After a rigid test during their "boot" training at Camp Allen, they had been selected to attend a Gunnery School. Carrying on through Camp Bradford they were sent to Dam Neck, Va. Proving Grounds to master the 20MM.(AA) gun. During their week's stay there, they achieved a commendable record, operating the gun on "live" targets. Their instructor was amazed at their ability and remarked, "the best record chalked to date."

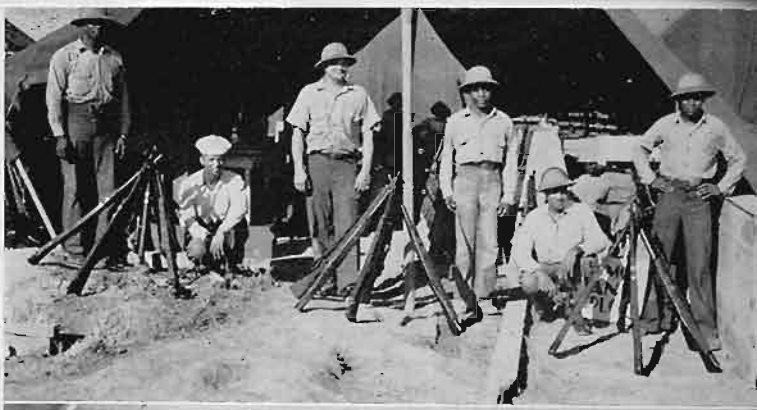
While at Gulfport, Fisher, Byrd, and Wright left the Armory for other duties with the Battalion. A. O. Blanchard, GM1c, and Herbert L. Williams, StM1c, was assigned to the Armory, "AOB" coming from the Station Force where he served as demolition instructor.

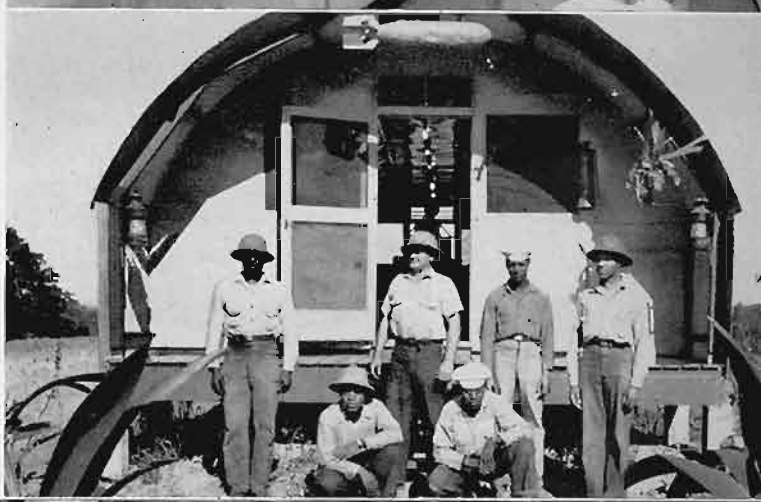
While on manoeuvers at Cat Island and the Rifle Range, the Armory operated as a mobile unit, instructing each man in the use and care of "his piece" under actual field operating conditions.

When the Battalion arrived on Island "X," Chief Castell left the Armory for duty as second-in-command in the Ship's Service Department and Blanchard assumed the responsibilities of Asst. Ordnance Officer.

Chief Carpenter H. E. Webb was named Ordnance Officer for the Battalion succeeding Carpenter Snow's detachment from the 80th.

Today, all over the world, the Armory continues to carry on the true tradition of the Seabees; "Willing, able and in the 'Can Do' spirit."





HEADQUARTERS COMPANY · PLATOON B

Leading another versatile crew are Chiefs "Doc" Koval, C. W. Travis of the Supply Office, C. E. Williams of Construction and J. L. Lipshutz of the Engineering Office. "Doc" Koval has two of his men, "Country" Lee, and "Blimp" Burke, in this platoon, which also includes several members of the personnel of the Officers' Mess: C. O. Williamson, "Tommy" Bautista, P. D. Laput, T. L. Roebuck and "Eddie" Wright.

The "food department" is well represented by R. H. Berry, "Hac" Hackleman, R. P. Moore, L. E. Childers, and "Shorty" Kruzner. P. M. Nero and "Wilbert" Woods are doing a good job, handling the food issue room—"Sarge" retains an important job in the supply office, E. C. Vaughn alternates between the supply truck and the shoe department, doing a "4.0" job in both places—"Stu" Alexander is kept busy, alternating between the Ships' Service Store and the Company Office.

Jimmy Williams is the only Armory man in this platoon, which also includes three men out in construction: "Ray" Shaffer of the survey party—L. Leo and Y. G. Yung working as electricians - W. M. Mitchum, with R. W. Scott, are members of the all-important camp maintenance crew—R. E. Wardrep is the lone representative of the Personnel Office in Platoon "B".

THE CHORAL GROUP

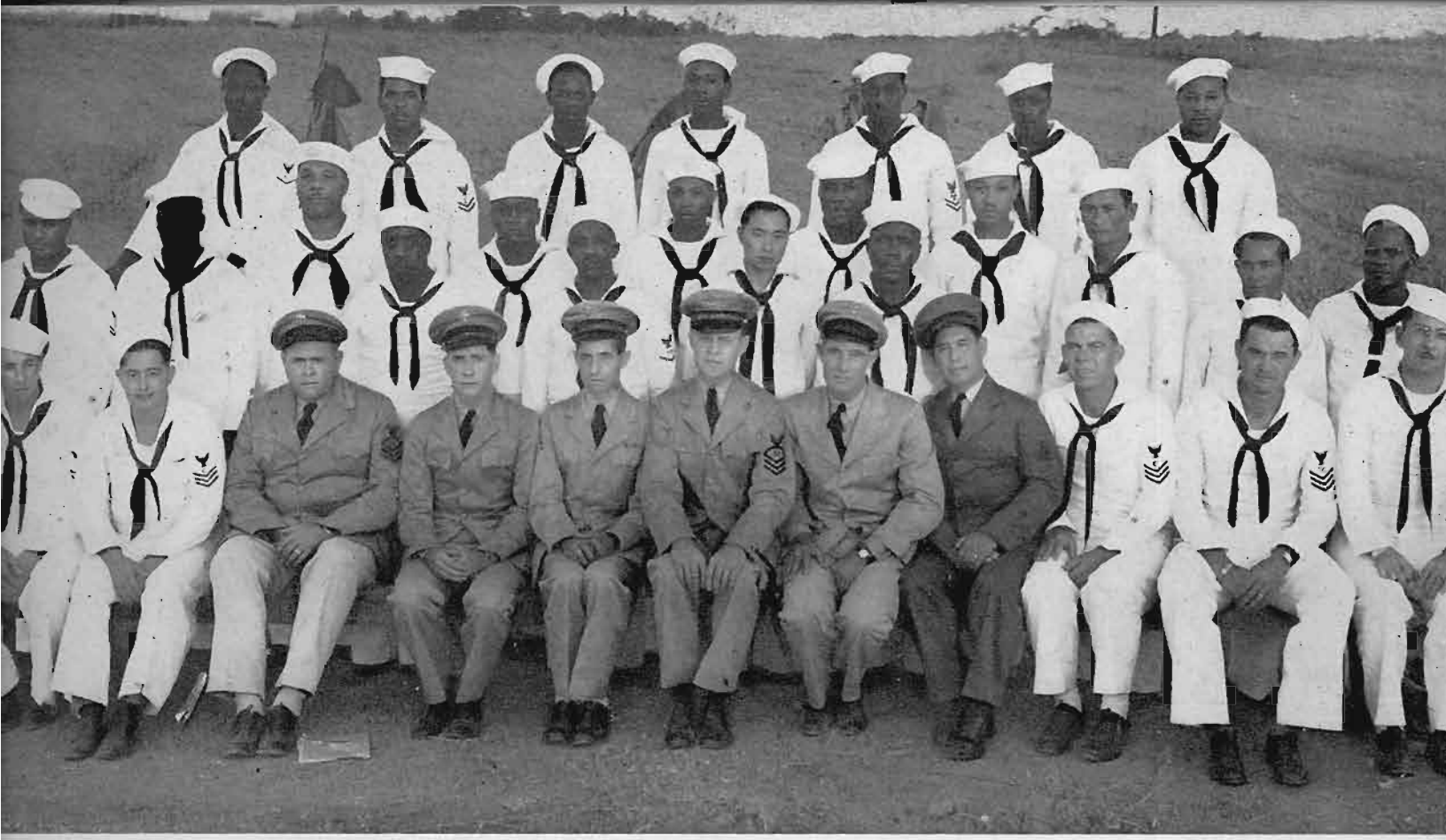
The Choral Group of the 80th Battalion under the direction of Charles H. Hawkins, CM2c, is winning fame and popularity on Island "X," having made appearances in several of our local churches.

Hawkins who is not only director of the group but an orator and lecturer as well, is training a group of more than twenty-five young men, whose services are already in great demand. The men present a splendid musical program consisting of solos, quartets, readings, recitations and of course group singing.

Ship Service

SHIP'S SERVICE

Here we purchase all the necessary items of our daily life and occasionally find something "nice" to send home to our wives and sweethearts. Its bright colors and well arranged displays automatically recall days when we were nearer to civiliaztion.



HEADQUARTERS COMPANY · PLATOON C

Platoon C is headed by Chiefs: O. V. "Big Jack" Covacevich, boat builder; W. W. "Kaintuck" Lester, Personnel chief; L. C. Bisbines, Director of the Officers' Mess; W. R. "Pardner" Holloway, Disbursing Office and Company Adjutant "Andy" Anderson.

Platoon "C" includes among it's members a few men of our "4.0" galley and bakery staff: "Sam" Craven, W. H. Golfanger, "Smokey" Martinez, "Alabama" Hardaway, L. Bullock, I. D. Salvador, L. Ward, "Harry Mar" and M. Jackson.

Members of the crew assigned to the Officers' Mess and the BOQ are J. A. Aleta, J. C. Deane and A. Dorn. R. M. Grant and "Friday" Ashmore, storekeeper, records the issue of all cleaning gear and supplies.
The responsibility of operating the beer garden and Ship's Service Store is assigned to "Sy" Seymour, while in the nearby Seabee Carpenter Shop, D. H. Hill turns out credible pieces of cabinet work.

The construction men are directed by E. P. Fly (now Chief Fly), ace metal worker and roofer, "Porky" Baker in one of the survey parties, C. Evans of Heavy Equipment, A. R. Ford, carpenter work, and P. M. Garcia, employed in the welding shop.

Three members of the "Camp Maintenance" crew are A. S. Jackson, G. W. Berry and H. L. Banks.

A "4.0" job of tailoring is done for the Battalion by C. H. Hawkins and the Armory roster is completed with G. W. Irving.

FIRST LADY TOURS ISLAND "X" BRINGS "BEST OF LUCK" FROM THE PRESIDENT

"Mrs. Roosevelt just arrived!" You could almost see the message travel the length of the camp as the First Lady was met at its entrance by our Skipper, Comdr. Harry Cantey, Jr., Sunday morning 12 March 1944. Accompanied by Chief of Staff, Captain C. R. Crutcher and official party, Mrs. Roosevelt made the 80th a stop-over on her flying tour of Island "X". Comdr. Cantey escorted the President's wife while Captain Crutcher squired her secretary, Miss Malvina Thompson, as they inspected Sick Bay, the Ship's Service and the Chaplain's Office.
When the party headed over to the movie theatre, half the battalion was already seated. Comdr. Cantey introduced our honored guest who indicated she carried a personal message from her husband. "Your Commander-in-Chief," she said, "has asked me to thank you personally for the job you have done and . . . he wished them all the best of luck."
"Every mother, wife and sweetheart of you men is anxiously awaiting the day when peace is with us again and you will all go home to your families."

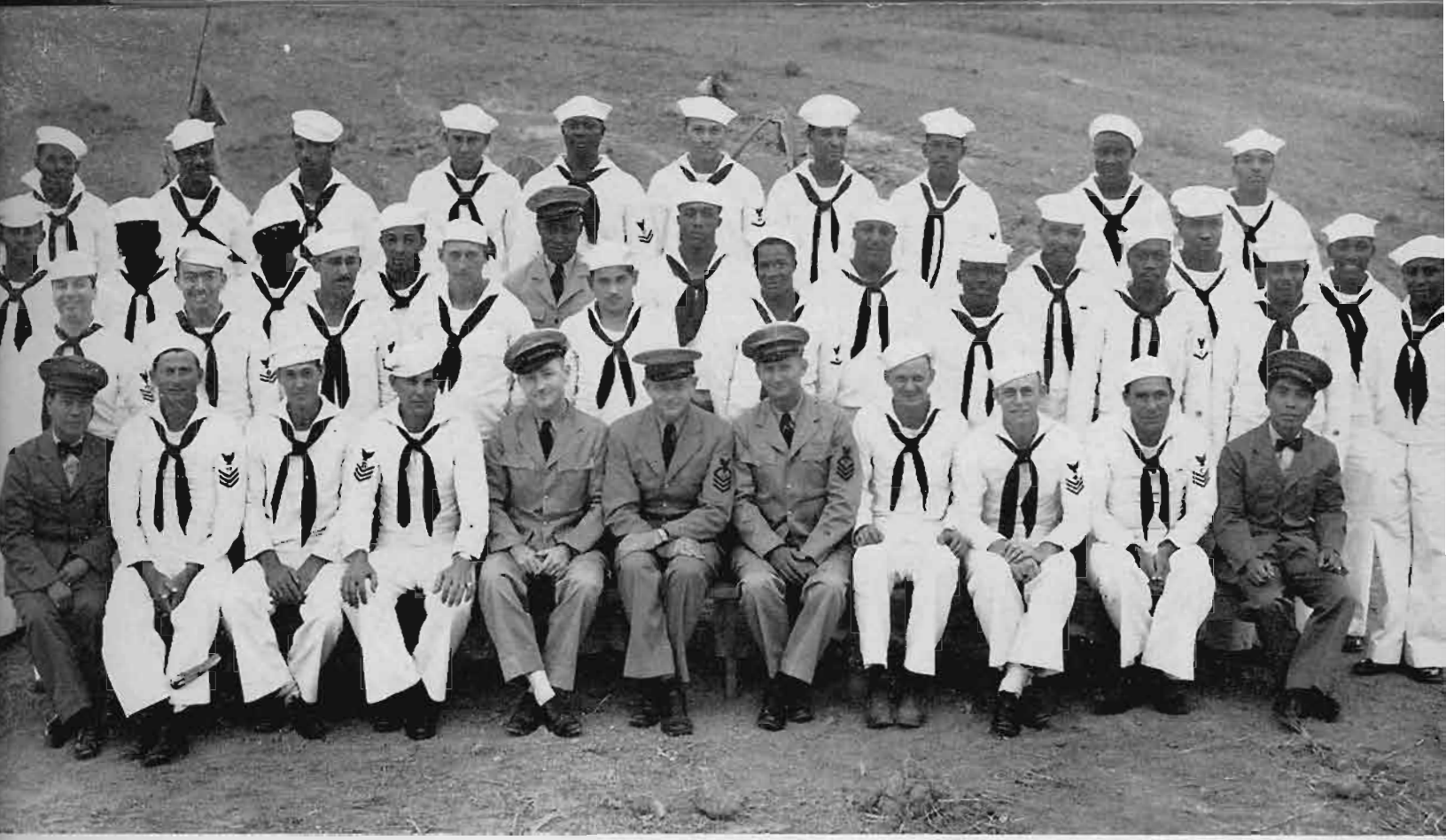
HEADQUARTERS COMPANY · PLATOON A · STRAGGLERS

Here are the men who were unable to be present when the regular platoon pictures were taken.

Against a background of iron fish and the various company officers are: E. K. Dare, battalion photographer; "Yankee" Parziale, at one time with the survey party and now assisting with recreation; H. J. Weaving of the fire department; Gene Kenney and "Oden" Browne, Disbursing Office; Jerry "Butch" Cates, butcher; B. L. Robertson, galley; E. H. Bland, who came up from NOB for this picture; "Slick" Stewart, of Transportation, and E. A. Reed of the Batching Plant warehouse, "Round Trip" Steele, Camp Maintenance.

ST. LUCIA (ONCE OVER LIGHTLY)

Another one of the unusual activities of 80th Battalion was the detail to the Island of St. Lucia. Under the leadership of Ens. G. M. Carter, assisted by Chief C. E. Drake, a detail of about 24 first-class men from different companies were shipped out from Section Base at NOB in the latter part of August, 1943. After about 28 hours on ship they arrived at St. Lucia. This is a very picturesque island dotted with hills and lakes and many colorful valleys. Two of the high peaks on this island are, Piton peak, the taller being Gros Peak with height of about 2,600 ft. and Petit with height of 2,500 ft. At Soufriere there is the Suffin Spring that flows bubbling sulphur water. Out in the bay there is Pigeon Island. This Island has a peak about 500 ft. high which was used by the British Navy during the war with the French as lookout. The famous Island of Martinique can be seen at short distance. The largest town on St. Lucia is Castrius, which was the Seabee's liberty town.



HEADQUARTERS COMPANY · PLATOON D

D Platoon chiefs are C. W. Priddy of the Commissary department, "Wally" Wahlgren, our construction chief, M. J. McHale, Skipper's Yeoman and "Beez Buzz" editor. Other construction men are "Groucho" Janet, ace roofer, M. O. Nelson, refrigeration, W. M. Wilson, heavy equipment, "Little Oakie," Bell, survey party, J. A. Parks, transportation and "cajun" guichet, also in the survey party.

Billy Jackson, now Chief Jackson, has excelled as draftsman and proved efficient in many additional tasks. Several members of the galley crew are included in the platoon. They are "Curley" Hall, L. J. Fowler, J. L. Cogle, "G-47" James, J. Hill, and W. A. Thompson handling supplies. M. Jenkins, "Angel" Rosa, L. Williams, D. M. Sanez, "Dencio" Olivares of the Officers' galley were also in this platoon.

Other members of the platoon included, Corpsmen "Huskie" Pittore, J. V. "Hunk of Man" Whittaker, "Druggist" Prague, B. H. Frye of the Ship's Service Store, J. T. Young, ship's service barber, H. Anderson, in charge of the C. P. O. mess, and S. T. Rochester, also of the chief's mess.

"Knickerbocker" Nixon of the executive office and "Beez Buzz" fame, "Low Gear" Speed, one of Chief McHale's hustlers, R. B. Slaughter and A. L. Thomas, in the post office. "Rollo" is the Battalion's Navy Mail Clerk and T. Walker serves in the same capacity in the Armory. Morris is the guy who spends his evenings reeling off our movies and "Spook" Lucas, of the camp maintenance crew served in many jobs around the camp and Ship's Service.

W. F. Lyons, in charge of the Battalion Warehouse, J. S. Laster of Supply, F. Porter of Disbursing and "Mac" McCluney of the M. A. A. Office complete the roster.

SILENT WORKERS

Why fret in your work because
The deaf world does not hear and praise?
Were it so bad, O Workman true,
To work in silence all your days?

I hear the traffic in the street,
But not the white worlds o'er the town;
I hear the gun at sunset roar—
I did not hear the sun go down.

Are work and workman greater when
The trumpet blows their fame abroad?
Nowhere on earth is found the man
Who works as silently as God.

(Samuel V. Cole)

BAY AVENUE

The Royal Botanical Gardens at Bay Avenue is flanked by one of many groups of foreign trees and shrubs that have been imported to Trinidad to make this the outstanding tropical garden of the Carribean. The Hindu priest with prayer beads around his neck and alms bowl in his hand pauses for our cameraman. Those of us who are familiar with native ways were quick to note the man bearing a load on his head. We observe too, it is unequally distributed in the surprise photo as they resume their journey. Other pictures demonstrate customs of the natives in their everyday tasks.

SCENE FROM THE ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS IN PORT OF SPAIN.

CARP. WILLIAM A. SKINNER
Umatilla, Fla.

CARP. GEORGE E. BROWN
900 Avenue C
Bayonne, N. J.

LT. (jg) STERLIN N. THOMPSON
3001 Culver Street
Dallas, Texas

Co "A"

CARP. GEORGE E. BROWN, CEC-V(S), USNR, Warrant Officer "A" Company—Born in New York, 20 March 1910—Early education in that vicinity followed by attendance at Lehigh University and New York University —Basic R. O. T. C. training—Associated with New York and New Jersey public utilities departments serving until appointed as Warrant Carpenter—Called to active duty June, 1943—Indoctrinated at Camp Peary and ordered to Island "X" for duty with the 80th, October, 1943—Did "4.0" job on LTA project, in charge of field engineering and construction assignments.

CARP. WILLIAM A. SKINNER, CEC-V(S), USNR, Company Officer—Born 16 July 1902, Reading, Penna.—Attended University of Florida with one and a half years' basic and advanced R. O. T. C.—From 1923 to 1942 employed in various capacities including City Paving and Highway Construction—Appointed Warrant Carpenter and called to active duty with 80th, 9 January 1943—Served in Public Works Department, NAAF, and supervised runway drainage and repair—Fond of fishing.

LT. (jg) STERLIN N. THOMPSON, CEC-V(S), USNR, Company "A" Commander and Communications Officer—Born 22 May 1916, Lometa, Texas—B.S. Degree in Civil Engineering from Texas A. and M. College, 1940—R. O. T. C. for two years—Prior to commission as Ensign engaged in highway and building construction—January 1943 called to active service with the 80th—promoted to Lt. (jg), 1 January 1944—Head of "E"—for Engineering Division, LTA Project—In addition to above duties, looks after maintenance and repair of heavy equipment.

STEEL WORKERS

The erection of the first vertical roof truss of one of our many projects.

COMPANY A · PLATOON 1

Front Row, Left to Right:

R. L. Brown, S1c, Rt. 14, Richmond, Va.

A. "Alec" Apostalo, QM1c, Port O'Conner, Texas.

C. B. Roberts, CCM, 410 W. Austin St., Paris, Texas.

A. J. Burnett, CCM, 217 3rd St., Brownfield, Texas.

W. J. Curtis, CCM, 724 N. E. Jessup St., Portland, Ore.

R. Williams, MM2c, 1714 Webster, Houston, Texas.

H. L. Permillion, MM2c, 1921 Toledano, New Orleans, La.

Back Row:

W. "Fats" Bolden, S1c, 523 No. 25th St., Mushogee, Okla.

A. Seals, CM3c, 1603 Whitty St., Houston, Texas.

E. E. Roulhac, EM2c, 622 E. Jackson, Thomasville, Ga.

C. G. Embry, S1c, 2672 Filmore St., Gary, Ind.

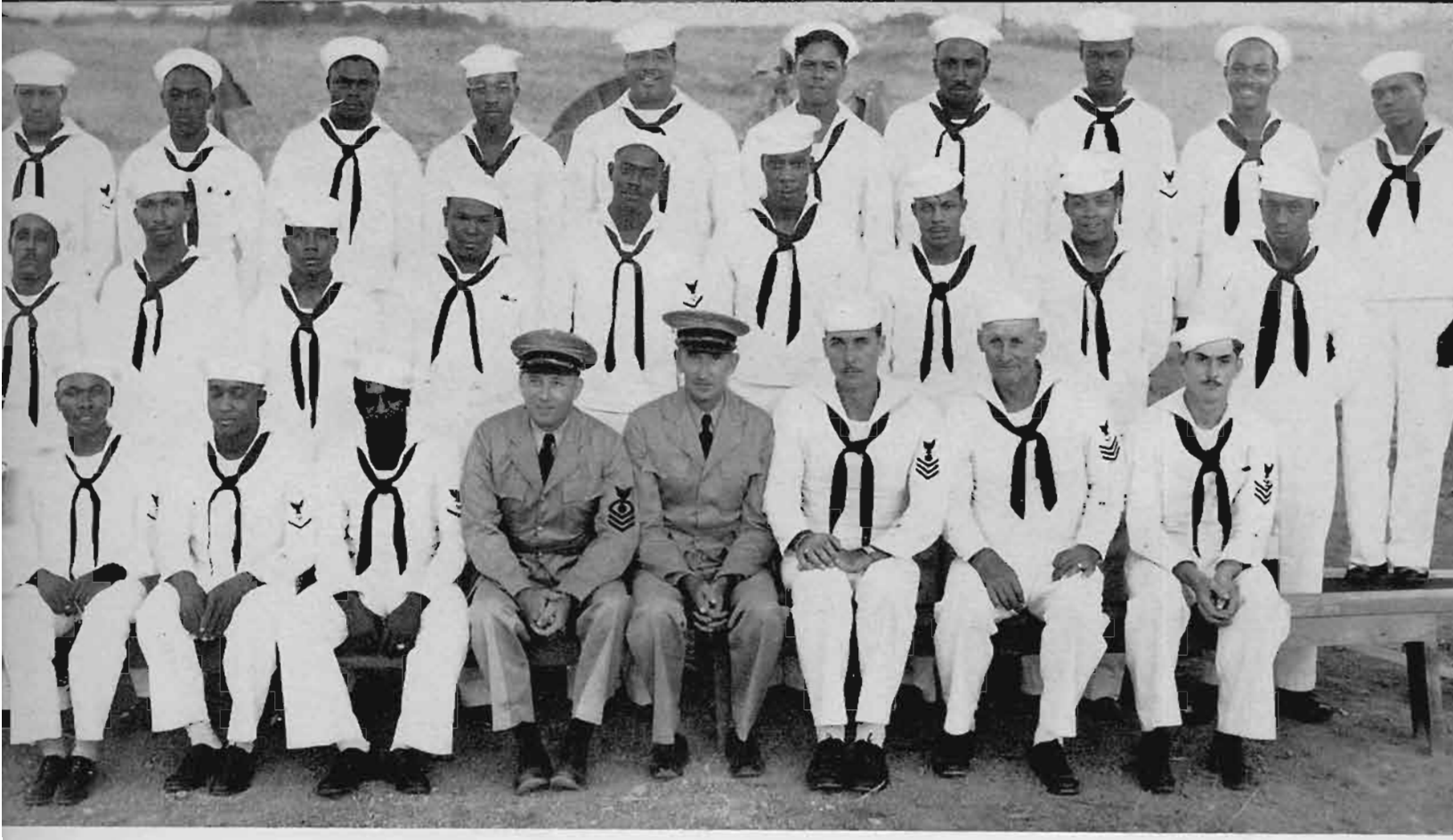
F. Rutledge, CM3c, 1018 6th Ave., Nashville, Tenn.

J. R. Dugas, CM3c, 1125 Gwinnett St., Augusta, Ga.

Missing at the time the picture was made: H. P. Fisher, S1c, 3409½ Polk St., Houston, Texas.

Engineers

The "E" (for Engineering) Division of the Battalion's Construction Organization faced the gigantic task of surveying and mapping out the drainage system, then the layout proper for the camp and for the job site. Under the capable leadership of Lt. (jg) S. N. Thompson, "E" Division Head, the Field Leader Corp. G. E. Brown, the lads licked the job proper. A rough idea of the soggy soil that prevailed over the entire area is pictured in the above photo. "Dozers" and drag-lines had to be supported and bedded before they could operate. Below are the "Can Do" Boys!



COMPANY A · PLATOON 2

Front Row, Left to Right:

D. L. Long, CM3c, Rt. 2, Longview, Texas.

E. Banks, SF3c, 4709 Hardy St., Houston, Texas.

W. H. Jones, CM3c, Whitestone, Va.

A. L. Zwally, CEM, 908 Elmwood Ave., Shreveport, La.

P. J. Chappell, CCM, Banner Elk, N. C.

F. R. Gray, EM1c, Hardy, Ark.

E. Johnson, CM1c, Twin Valley, Minn.

J. A. Lopez, MM1c, 784 Waldorf St., Memphis, Tenn.

Second Row:

I. W. Armstrong, MM3c, 73 Myrtle St., N. E., Washington, D. C.

C. W. Wilkins, S1c, 1341 E. Piggott, E. St. Louis, Ill.

R. Hicks, S1c, 623 Mill St., Memphis, Tenn.

E. J. LeBlanc, MM2c, 701 No. Johnson, New Orleans, La.

C. W. Moore, SF3c, 307 "E" St., Brewton, Ala.

J. T. Garrett, S2c, 38 Cedar St., Roxbury, Mass.

F. Williams, S1c, Fredericksburg, Va.

E. M. Williams, S1c, 43 Plum St., Reading, Pa.

E. C. Johnson, S1c, 1159 No. Ave., Fort Worth, Texas.

Third Row:

C. Kile, Jr., SF3c, 1971 Jay St., Detroit, Mich.

T. I. Smith, S1c, 4824 Constance St., New Orleans, La.

R. B. Long, S1c, 143 Section Line, Sand Springs, Okla.

L. Bogney, S1c, 2613 Winburn, Houston, Texas.

R. L. Lattimer, S1c, 613 E. 60th St., Chicago, Ill.

R. King, S1c, Rt. 2, Longview, Texas.

C. Gee, S2c, Weldon, N. C.

H. E. Davis, CM3c, 3008 Dennis St., Houston Texas.

E. Lawrence, S1c, 3626 Calliope St., New Orleans, La.

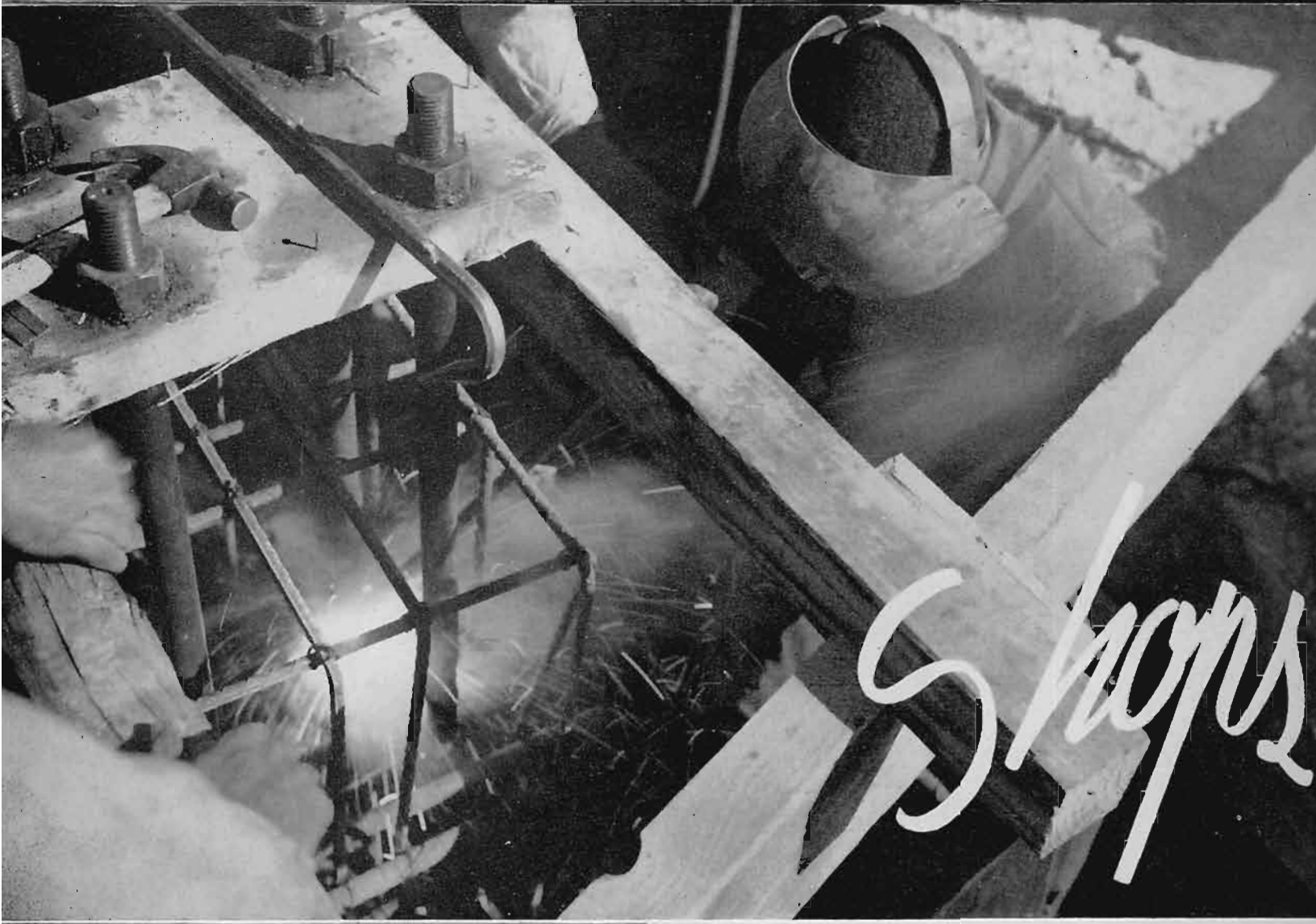
J. C. Smith, CM3c, 1159 No. Greenwood, Tulsa, Okla.

★ ★ ★

"Darnit, leftovers again," growled the cannibal chief as he nibbled on the two old maids.

★ ★ ★

Tattoo artist to departing sailor: "And remember, don't sit down for a few hours—give Hitler's face a chance to dry."



The men on the firing line and the men behind the scenes! Here it is again! The operation on the job site proper was ably expedited by the "4.0" performance of the Seabees who kept the tools of construction, from handsaws to bulldozers, in shipshape form. The "shot" at top of page is actually on the hangar site. The masked Seabee is welding home the anchor bolts in the hangar foundation aptly demonstrating the exacting tasks which were a normal routine. Heavy Equipment, Carpentry, Plumbing, and Tool, to mention but several, rate "top-hole" in the eyes of the Seabee "on the job"!

COMPANY A · PLATOON 3

Front Row, Left to Right:

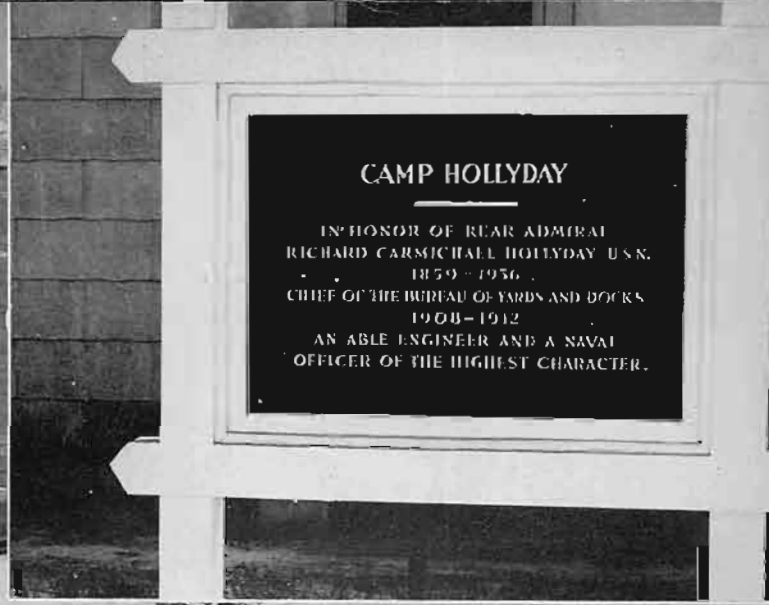
R. E. Yates, CM3c, McEwan, Tenn.
J. D. "Jody" Hunter, WT1c, McCall, Texas.
Sam Young Hicks, CM1c, Sibley, La.
E. M. "Pop" Strong, CM1c, 230 Deerfield St. Houston, Texas.
R. F. "Rudy" Williams, EM1c, 1210 St. Anthony St., New Orleans, La.
J. J. "Dago" Altimore, CM1c, Box 7B, Rt. 1, Corpus Christi, Texas.
Larry C. Roesner, CSF, 799 Waples Ave., Marion, Ohio.
Jene Victor Oberholtzer, CSF, Box 198, Rt. 5, Canton, Texas.
J. L. Driver, M2c, Rt. 2, Box 62, McEwan, Tenn.
W. W. Preaceley, Ptr2c, 3810 Praine Ave., Chicago, Ill.
Willis Edwards, Ptr3c, 412 Thompson St., Vidalia, Ga.
J. W. Chambers, S1c, 3145 McDermett St., Dallas, Texas.
K. G. Wheaton, S1c, 1122 E. 1st St., Jacksonville, Fla.

Second Row:

Oliver Dunbar, CM3c, Lake Village, Ark.
Edward Bland, S1c, Wrightsville, Ark.
H. J. Cousin, CM3c, 2356 Pauger St., New Orleans, La.
L. P. Doucet, S2c, 2421 Republic St., New Orleans, La.
Theodore Evans, Jr., S2c, 6639 St. Lawrence, Chicago, Ill.
Daniel Johnson, SF3c, 1308 W. Alabama, Houston, Texas.
L. W. Dukes, S1c, 608 Ash St., Forrest City, Ark.
L. F. Legaux, CM3c, 2229 Orleans, New Orleans, La.
J. E. Burnnett, CM2c, 1210 Ash St., Texarkana, Ark.
Leroy Cunningham, S1c, 384½ E. Boardman St., Youngstown, Ohio.
P. T. Dyer, S2c, Laplate, Md.
H. S. Richard, MM2c, 927 Nolan Ave., Donaldsonville, La.
B. A. Brown, CM3c, 2122 So. Robinson, New Orleans, La.

Third Row:

W. L. Costner, CM3c, Spindale, N. C.
R. A. Cooper, S1c, 705 8th St., Galveston, Texas.
P. M. Dillard, S1c, McComas, W. Va.
W. R. Baker, Ptr3c, 1207 So. Johnson, New Orleans, La.
P. Tate, CM3c, 1287 Ann St., Columbus, Ohio.
Thomas Duncan, S1c, 2194 E. 35th St., Cleveland, Ohio.
C. V. Coleman, CM3c, Rt. 4, Hope, Ark.
F. R. Brooks, CM3c, 511 Washington St., Brookhaven, Miss.
M. G. Williams, S2c, Adams, Tenn.
Aulis Williams, S1c, Fredericksburg, Va.
W. J. Sneed, Cox, 508 Virginia Blvd., San Antonio, Texas.
A. Carbins, CM3c, 415 No. Moore St., Dallas, Texas.
J. H. Jennings, S2c, Point Peter, Ga.
Arthur Monagan, S1c, 2709 William St., Chattanooga, Tenn.
Missing at the time picture was made: J. M. Argrett, CM2c.


CAMP HOLLYDAY
IN HONOR OF REAR ADMIRAL
RICHARD CARMICHAEL HOLLYDAY U.S.N.
1859 - 1936
CHIEF OF THE BUREAU OF YARDS AND DOCKS
1908 - 1912
AN ABLE ENGINEER AND A NAVAL
OFFICER OF THE HIGHEST CHARACTER.

A.B.D.

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COMPANY A · PLATOON 4

Front Row, Left to Right:

W. W. Applewhite, MM2c, 2720 Liberty St., New Orleans, La.
G. F. Harper, SF1c, 6675 Bellfast, Detroit, Mich.
C. D. Woelk, CCM, Pawnee Rock, Kansas.
J. W. Hollinsworth, CCM, Tulsa, Okla.
L. P. Scott, CM3c, Mobile, Ala.
H. G. Moore, S1c, Rt. 1, Brouins, Ala.

Second Row:

T. Mitchell, S1c, 323 9th Ave., Bradenton, Fla.
R. C. Carter, CM2c, Rt. 2, Columbus, Texas.
D. Perkins, S2c, 926 W. Duvall, Jacksonville, Fla.
W. H. Jones, SC3c, 531 E. Queen, Tulsa, Okla.
L. F. Desselle, F1c, Rt. 1, Marksville, La.
W. F. Payne, EM2c, 3122 Albans Rd., Houston, Texas.
C. P. Roberts, S1c, 2259 Maypole Ave., Chicago, Ill.
E. L. Lane, S1c, 603 Vanfleet, Palestine, Texas.
F. Betton, S1c, 117 No. Galvez, New Orleans, La.

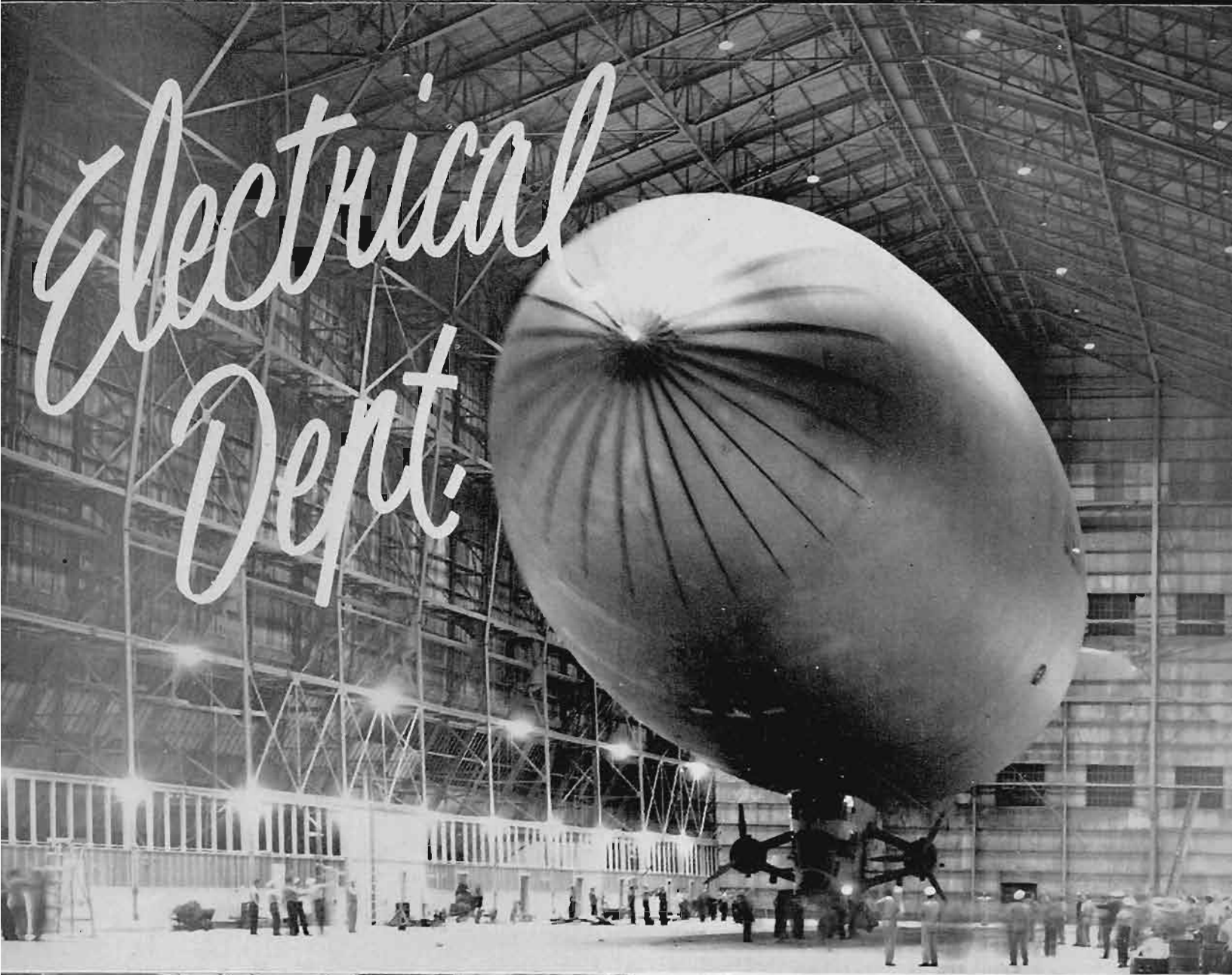
Third Row:

I. C. McDaniels, S1c, 2318 Pendleton St., Columbia, S. C.
R. F. Moorer, S1c, Redjacket, W. Va.
J. W. Patton, S1c, Rt. 2, Forrest City, Ark.
I. Bolden, S1c, 1215 DuHosat St., New Orleans, La.
W. L. Terry, S2c, 3718 Ave. I, Galveston, Texas.
L. L. Picou, S1c, 606 No. Tonti, New Orleans, La.
M. Dorthey, S1c, Brinkley, Ark.

These men missing when the picture was taken:

C. J. Akin, MM1c, 106½ E. 12th St., Medford, Ore.
R. Banks, CM3c, Baton Rouge, La.
W. M. Blanton, CM1c, 842 N. W. 43rd, Oklahoma City, Okla.
R. F. Gilbert, CM1c, Fairfax, Okla.
G. W. Howard, S1c, 1110 Front St., Georgetown, S. C.
J. H. Hughes, MM1c, Hawley, Texas.
R. J. Williamson, MM3c, 37 Allen St., West Haven, Conn.
L. Jackson, S1c, 2123 Delechaise, New Orleans, La.
G. W. Kelly, S1c, 2301 Cathedral Ave., Sec. 8, Washington, D. C.
M. F. Lange, CM3c, Madisonville, La.
H. Larson, GM1c, Marysville, Wash.
B. J. Lewis, MM2c, Rt. 2, Houston, Texas.
J. P. Massey, MM3c, 1537 Benton St., New Orleans, La.
J. R. Oakes, S2c, 89 Longdale Ave., White Plains, N. Y.
W. Peterson, Jr., S2c, 1331 Magnolia, New Orleans, La.
W. E. Peterson, F1c, 165 Brookfield St., White Plains, N. Y.
C. B. Pharrow, CM2c, 65½ Young St., Atlanta, Ga.
P. Turner, S2c, 409 Valley St., Poplar Bluff, Mo.
B. Walker, S2c, 708 2nd Ave., New Kensington, Pa.

Electrical Dept.



Electrical Department: What good are machines if there is no "juice" to run them? How can we do our job if we can't see where we are going? These two problems were tackled and solved by the Electrical Crew under Corp. C. D. "Pappy" Collor and CEM A. L. Zwally in bang-up time. Top photo depicts one of their triumphs as the first 'baby-zep" is "put to bed" at night—But it isn't night inside the hangar. Just look!

Stopping over on his flying visit to our sector, Rear Admiral L. B. Combs, CEC, USN, Asst. Chief of BuDocks, visited the Eightieth on 15 March 1944 and recalled having given us our Battalion Colors over a year ago in Bradford. Addressing the officers assembled at the Commander's office, the Admiral indicated his real interest in our outfit. He pointed out that the Seabees in this area have done a job which has merited praise from many sources. An assignment may not place an outfit in a so-called "hot-zone," it was shown, but the fact that the assignment was made is the best evidence that the job is essential.

Admiral Combs and his party were our officers' guests at noon mess, and later accompanied by Comdr. L. Miscall, Regimental Skipper, and our Comdr. Harry Cantey, Jr., made an inspection of our camp and the project. Our Harmony Quartet, and singer J. R. Dugas plus Irving "Boogey-Woogey" Baham answered a hurry up call and put over a "command performance" for our visitors. The Admiral made particular commendation of the Security Guard, whom he surprised while going through their precision paces on the drill field.

COMPANY A · PLATOON 5

Front Row, Left to Right:

G. L. Wilson, CCM, 238 Gill Ave., Biloxi, Miss.
A. Boone, S1c, 3016 Houston Ave., Houston, Texas.
J. C. Allen, Ptr3c, 2157 Fischer Ave., Detroit, Mich.
George D. Clements, BM1c, 2347 E. 55th St., Cleveland, Ohio.
A. J. Caldwell, MM1c, 1111 Riverside Drive, Nashville, Tenn.
L. W. Trickey, CM1c, 426 Good Hope St., Cape Girardeau, Mo.
Charles McCall, CM1c.
W. Dickerson, MM1c, 413 Walker St., Greenville, Miss.
N. H. Jones, Ptr1c, 4721 Redriver, Austin, Texas.
R. W. Koch, CCM, 48 Inverness Rd., Scarsdale, N. Y.

Second Row:

M. James, S1c, 22 Home St., White Plains, N. Y.
S. T. Guess, S2c, 4020 Burkett, Houston, Texas.
J. C. Daviss, S1c, Coy, Ark.
B. King, S1c, 1302 G, N. E., Washington, D. C.
J. L. Guiton, MM3c, 918 E. 32nd St., Houston, Texas
"B" "J" Hare, S2c, Vandale, Ark.
F. B. Harris, AS, 652 Mt. Auburn, Zanesville, Ohio.
V. Jones, MM3c, 2610 Harlem St., Houston, Texas.
J. W. Long, S2c, 1712 No. Jersey Ave., Washington, D. C.
V. L. Hightower, MM2c, 1912 West St., Houston, Texas.

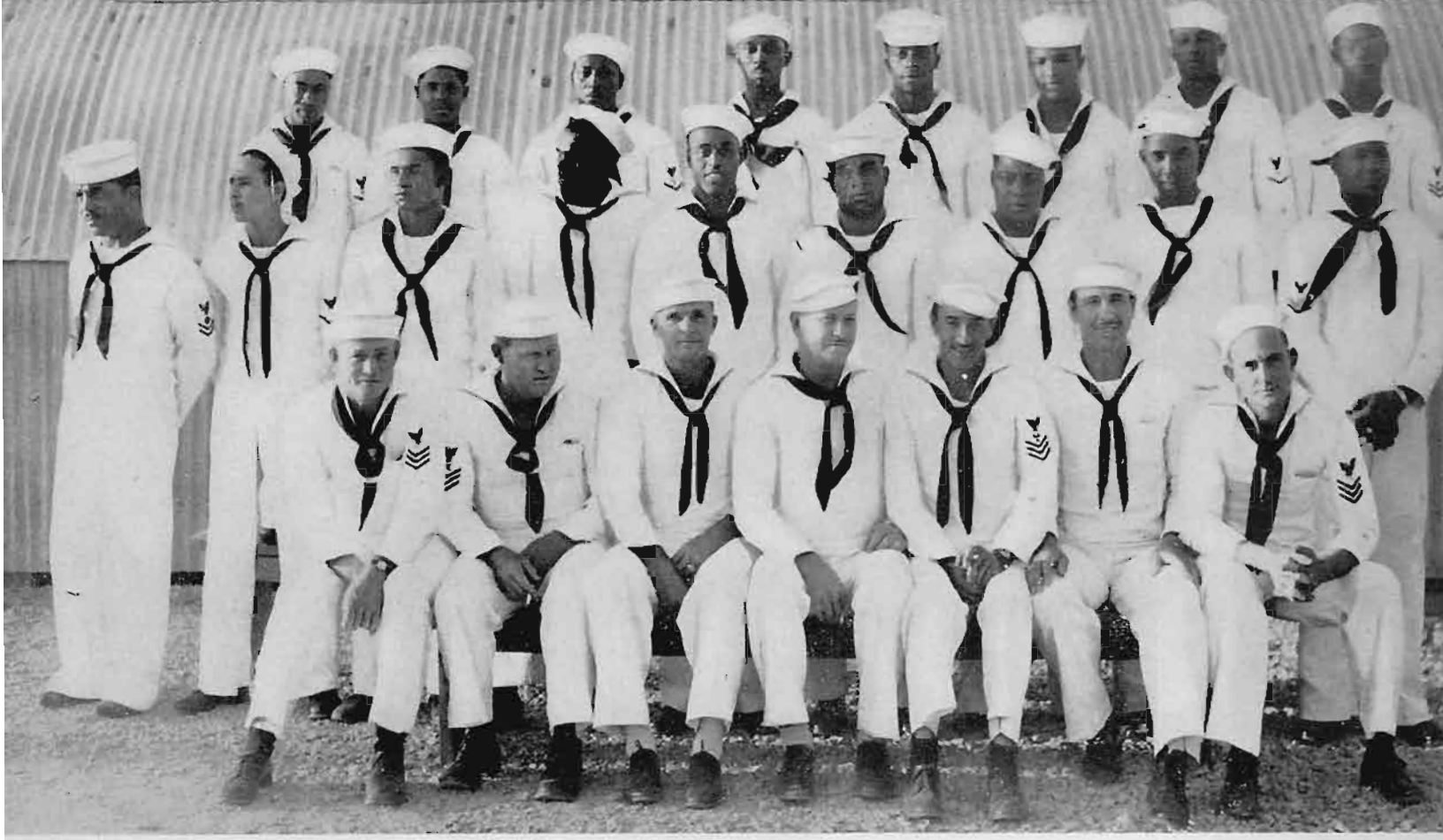
Third Row:

J. Guillebeaux, CM3c, 5 Jane St., Ashville, N. C.
K. F. Wiggins, F1c, 1127 Columbia Rd., N. W., Washington, D. C.
E. Wright, BM2c, 2222 La. Ave., New Orleans, La.
P. Polk, MM3c, 1715 Dawson St., San Antonio, Texas.
D. Washington, S1c, 4306 Orange St., Houston, Texas.
J. A. Cooper, CM3c, 24 Claber Pl., Brooklyn, N. Y.
H. Dunn, CM3c, 1009 Warlo St., North Side, Pittsburgh, Pa
E. D. Bedford, CM3c, 2312 Napoleon St., Houston, Texas.

Back Row:

W. R. Harris, S1c, 2844 Winburn, Houston, Texas.
I. Guess, S1c, 511 No. Detroit, Tulsa, Okla.
G. Gayles, SF3c, 223 Baker St., Shreveport, La.
F. F. Coutee, MM3c, Cloutierville, La.
O. L. Thompson, CM3c, 321 No. Moore, Tyler, Texas.
J. Robinson, S1c, 1809 W. Madison, Chicago, Ill.
E. J. Thomas, CM3c, 1233 N. W. 6th Ave., Miami, Fla.
L. F. Bess, S1c, 2128 Clio St., New Orleans, La.

Men not present when picture was made: W. A. Bucher, CM1c; R. N. Peters, S2c; M. H. Armistead, S2c.



COMPANY A · STRAGGLERS

Sitting, Left to Right: W. A. Bucher, CM1c; H. Larson, GM1c; J. H. Hughes, MM1c; W. M. Blanton, CM1c; C. J. Akin, MM1c; R. W. Farve, CM1c; R. Gilbert, CM1c.

Second Row: C. B. Pharrow, EM2c; M. F. Lange, EM3c; S. O. Beckrum, S2c; L. Jackson, S1c; W. E. Peterson, F1c; G. W. Kelly, S1c; B. Walker, S2c; P. Turner, S2c; H. P. Fisher, BM2c.

Back Row: J. P. Massy, MM3c; G. W. Howard, S1c; R. J. Williamson, MM3c; W. H. Jones, SC3c; R. N. Peters, S2c; M. H. Armistead, S2c; R. Banks, CM3c; B. J. Lewis, MM2c.

★ ★ ★

PhM2c: "Woman's greatest attraction is her hair."
HA1c: "I say it's her eyes."
PhM2c: "I strongly disagree. It's her teeth."
HA2c: "What's the use of sitting here lying to one another like that."

★ ★ ★

Ferdinand, the Bull, was in a pasture when he noticed a cow in the next field. He decided to see the cow, so he hurdled the wire fence between them. The cow seeing him exclaims, "Oh, I know you, you're Ferdinand, the Bull." To which he replied, "Just call me Ferdinand, that fence was higher than I expected."

COMPANY A · PLATOON 6

Front Row, Left to Right:

R. Kemp, S1c, 1513 So. White, New Orleans, La.
R. E. Traylor, S2c, 2916 Scovill Ave., Cleveland, Ohio.
H. J. "Alec" Alexander, CM1c, 3702 LaSalle, New Orleans, La.
L. D. Jenkins, CCM, 1207 Warren St., San Fernando, Calif.
H. L. Trout, CSF, 412 W. Lea, Hobbs, N. M.
I. A. McFadden, CSF, Rt. 2, Jacksonville, Texas.
E. Bunch, MM3c, 1806 N. W. 3rd Ct., Miami, Fla.
A. B. Smith, SF2c, 5801 Hawthorne, Cleveland, Ohio.
J. Thompson, S2c, 34th and Georgia, Pine Bluff, Ark.

Second Row:

H. P. Lincoln, SF3c, Rt. 2, Queen City, Texas.
M. T. Porter, CM3c, 3233 McGowan Ave., Houston, Texas.
G. Lemelle, CM3c, 317 So. Walnut, Lafayette, La.
J. H. Warren, S1c, Red Jacket, W. Va.
A. Persons, S1c, 2511 Noble, Houston, Texas.
H. A. Clark, S2c, 1406 Pacific St., Brooklyn, N. Y.
J. S. Thompson, Jr., S1c, 33 E. 11th Ave., Gloverville, N. Y.
N. R. Colon, S1c, 509 E. 136th St., Bronx, N. Y.
S. G. Anderson, CM2c, Buckingham, Va.

Third Row:

L. M. Johnson, S1c, 4003 Broadway, Mushogee, Okla.
C. Ponder, BM2c, 954 Hercules St., Mobile, Ala.
M. C. Farnell, S1c, 3217 Winburn Ave., Houston, Texas.
J. Reese, SF3c, Crosby, Texas.
H. T. Turner, S1c, Rt. 3, Natchitoches, La.
W. Jeter, Ptr3c, 1218 Legree St., Columbia, S. C.
C. G. Kirby, SF3c, Rt. 1, Hempstead, Texas.
J. C. Tyler, S1c, McDonald, Ga.
E. N. Harris, S2c, 298 Stuyvesant Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.

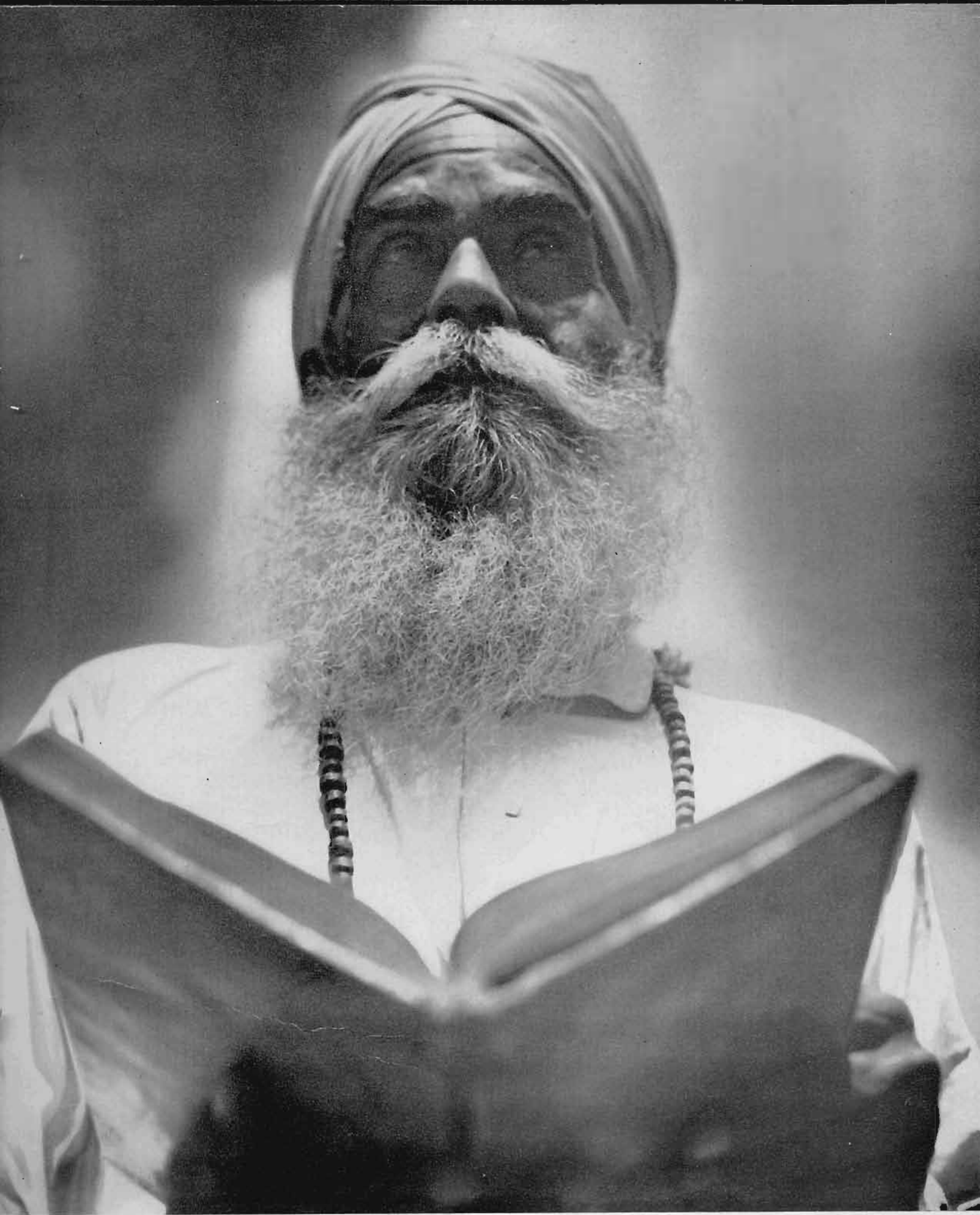
Back Row:

C. A. Ware, F1c, Rt. 3, Jackson, Miss.
J. F. Harriston, S1c, Pocahonta, Va.
Ira Gibson, S1c, 3237 Drew St., Houston, Texas.
W. E. Seward, SF3c, 1402 E. Wyandotte, Mcalister, Texas.
T. Johnson, S1c, 504 E. Jasper, Tulsa, Okla.
R. L. Foster, S1c, 3237 Drew St., Houston, Texas.
U. L. Bess, Cox, 2517 Anita, Houston, Texas.
A. Harris, S1c, 3219 Summit St., Little Rock, Ark.
J. D. Shans, Cox, 1258 8th St., Oakland, Calif.
L. A. Wright, CM3c, 511 West St., Monongahela, Pa.

Those not present when the picture was made:
S. O. Backrum, S2c, 704 No. Walnut St., Champain, Ill.
L. E. Hodges, SF1c, 637 No. 5th St., Memphis, Tenn.

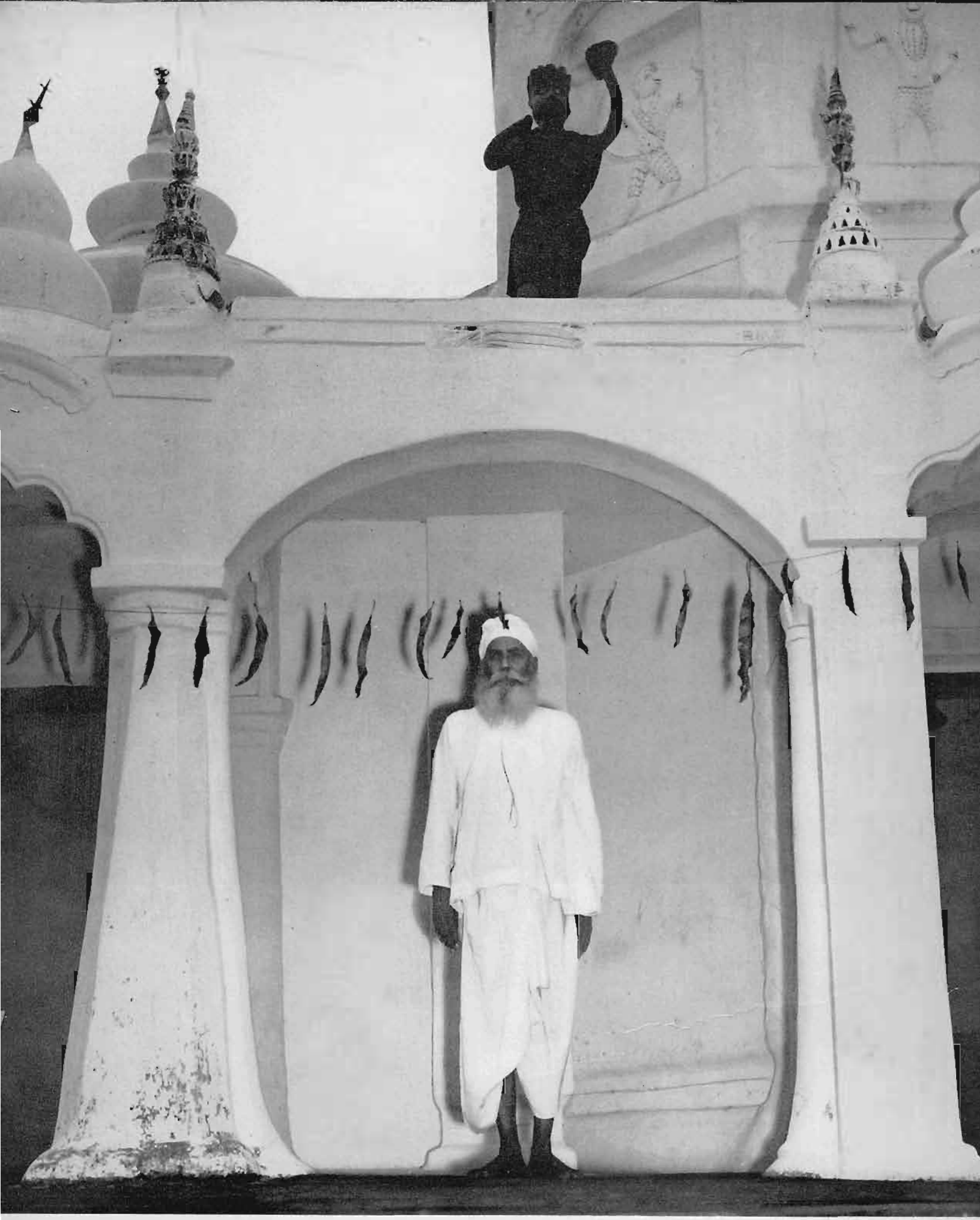
ROADSIDE THROUGH TUCKER VALLEY

The beautiful Spanish Immortele trees line the roadside through Tucker Valley to the U. S. Naval Hospital and the Macqueripe Officers' Club. This infra-red photo accentuates the beauty of the highly colored foliage.



NATIVE PRIEST

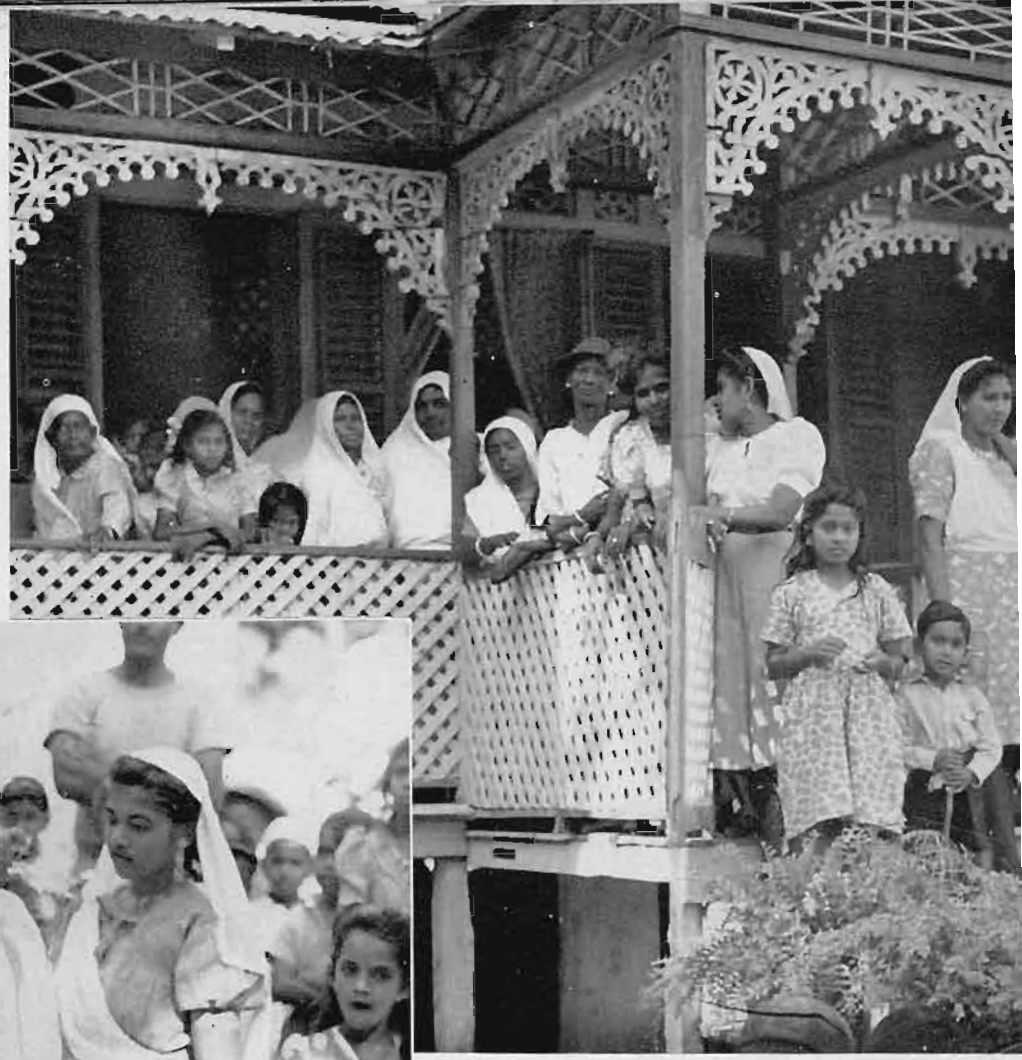
A Hindu Priest adorned with prayer-beads around his neck and holding the alms bowl in his hands. Other pictures depict the natives in their everyday tasks.



PRIEST AND TEMPLE

Another of the many stately Priests who is always ready to pray for and with his natives. His methods of religious rites are so different from ours it is very interesting to see.

INDIAN WEDDING



The bride and her attendants and all the women guests are required to wait in the house while only the men attend the wedding services.

These services are held in a bamboo hut built in the yard for the occasion. At this wedding the first meeting of the bride and groom occurred when they posed for our photographer.

THE COLUMBUS ANCHOR

This valued historical treasure occupies a prominent spot in Port of Spain's main street. Trinidadians are proud of their Island's history and will devote hours at a time telling any interested visitor about its many invasions and colorful personages.

Co. "B"

LT. JAMES E. JORDAN
1837 Bessemer Rd.
Birmingham, Ala.

CHIEF CARP. HOWARD E. WEBB
15 Center Street
Milford, Conn.

LT. (jg) GERALD M. CARTER
Harlem, Georgia

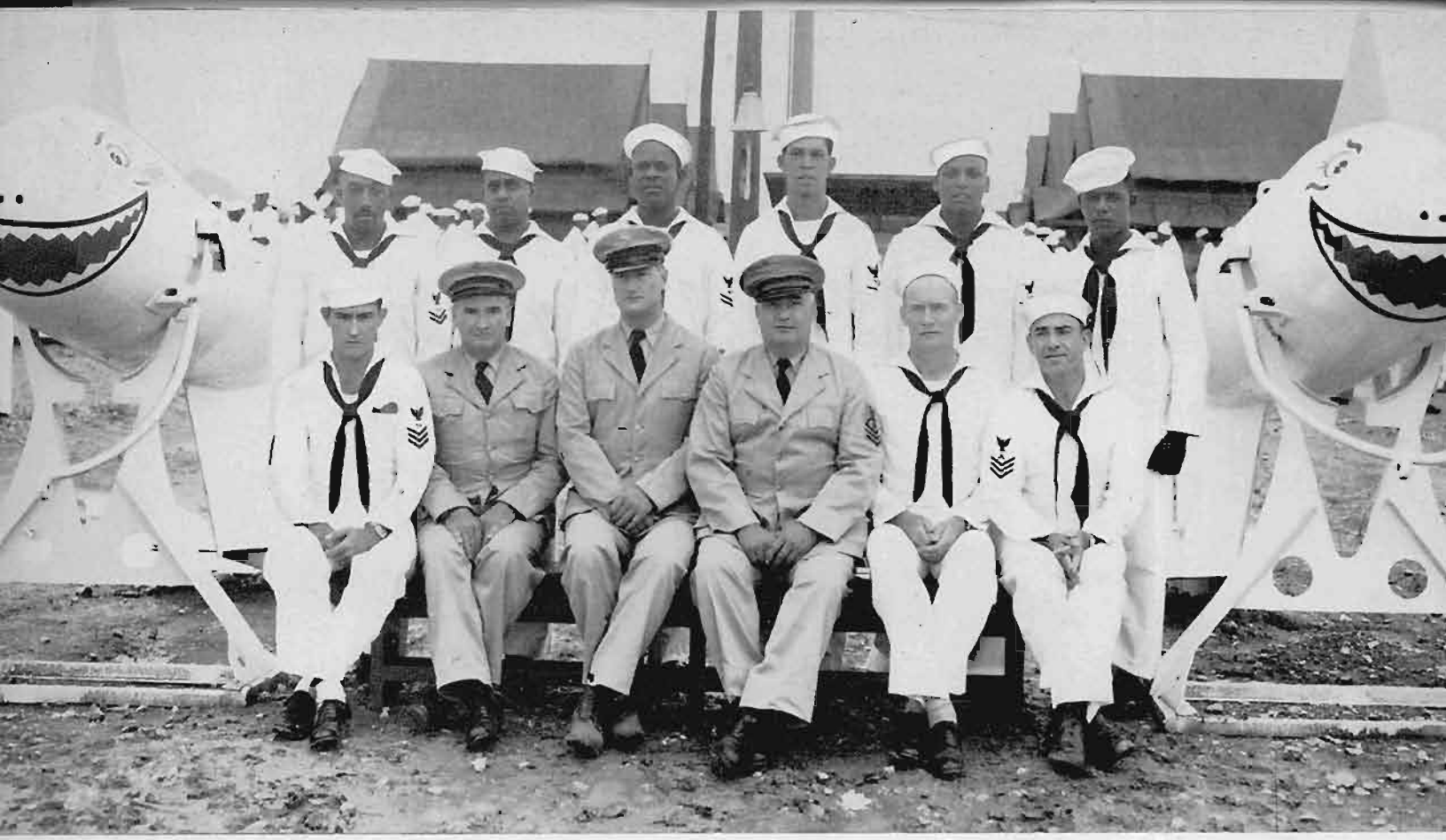
LT. JAMES E. JORDAN, CEC-V(S), USNR, Transportation and Company "B" Commander—Born 7 August 1906 Cobb County, Ga.—He received his early education in that vicinity and later attended Georgia Tech where he majored in civil engineering—With two years advanced R. O. T. C. (Air Corps) training to his credit prior to receiving the commission of Lt. (jg) together with fifteen years' experience as Civil Engineer and Contractor, he was well qualified for his assignment to 80th, January, 1943—He took over the reins of Company "B" soon after his arrival on Island "X" in addition to handling the complex problem of transportation, and proved himself a capable organizer and executive.

LT. (jg) GERALD M. CARTER, CEC-V(S), USNR, Company "B" Officer—Born 20 January 1913, Morgantown, Ga.—He attended High School in Copperhill, Tenn., the North Georgia College, and the University of Georgia where he received the degree of B.S. in Civil Engineering—His early training included two years in R. O .T. C.—Prior to his entry in the Naval Reserve he was with the U. S. D. A. Soil Conservation Service, specializing in soil conservation and allied engineering work—He was connected primarily with the operation of CCC camps in the vicinity of Harlem, Ga.—On the 12th of January, 1943, he was commissioned as Ensign and reported for duty with the 80th—Lt. Carter has filled various important posts in battalion organization and commended as Officer in charge of detail handling demolition of NAS at St. Lucia.

CHIEF CARPENTER HOWARD E. WEBB, CEC-V(S), USNR, Company "B" Officer, Ordnance Officer and Photography Officer for the Battalion—Officer Webb was born 11 January 1904, at Gen Rock, Penna.—He graduated from the Milford, Conn., High School and engaged in general construction work from 1930 to 1942 in Connecticut and Florida when he received his appointment as Warrant Carpenter and assigned to the 80th, 10 January 1943—Ordnance Officer upon detachment of Carpenter Snow—As Photography Officer he rates a double "4.0" and is the driving force behind this "year book"—He was elevated to Chief Carpenter 29 February 1944.

ARRIVAL OF THE FIRST LADY

The First Lady arrived on board our Island "X" early one Sunday morning. She is shown being greeted by our Skipper. This visit by the charming "Mrs. F. D. R." was one of the most pleasant events during our tour of duty. Capt. C. R. Crutcher, N. O. B. Chief of Staff and Comdr. Bailey stand by.



COMPANY B · PLATOON 1

Platoon I while in Gulfport was under the leadership of Jack Young, CSF. About the first of this year, Chief Young was transferred to duty with the N. A. A. F. Then Dewey Brown, CMM, took over as Chief of Platoon. This Platoon has made three re-rates. Just before leaving the States Cleburn Meyer was advanced from CM1c to CCM. Chief Meyer is now with the MAA Force. Raymond D. Jaynes was transferred from Co. "D" and has worked in transportation since we arrived in Trinidad. He was advanced from S2c to F2c, along with Mathew J. Grant who was boosted to S1c from S2c. Chief E. C. Mehlos was Company Adjutant until he was loaned to NOB to help install electrical equipment on the Base.

A SAILOR'S PRAYER

(Could be a Seabee)

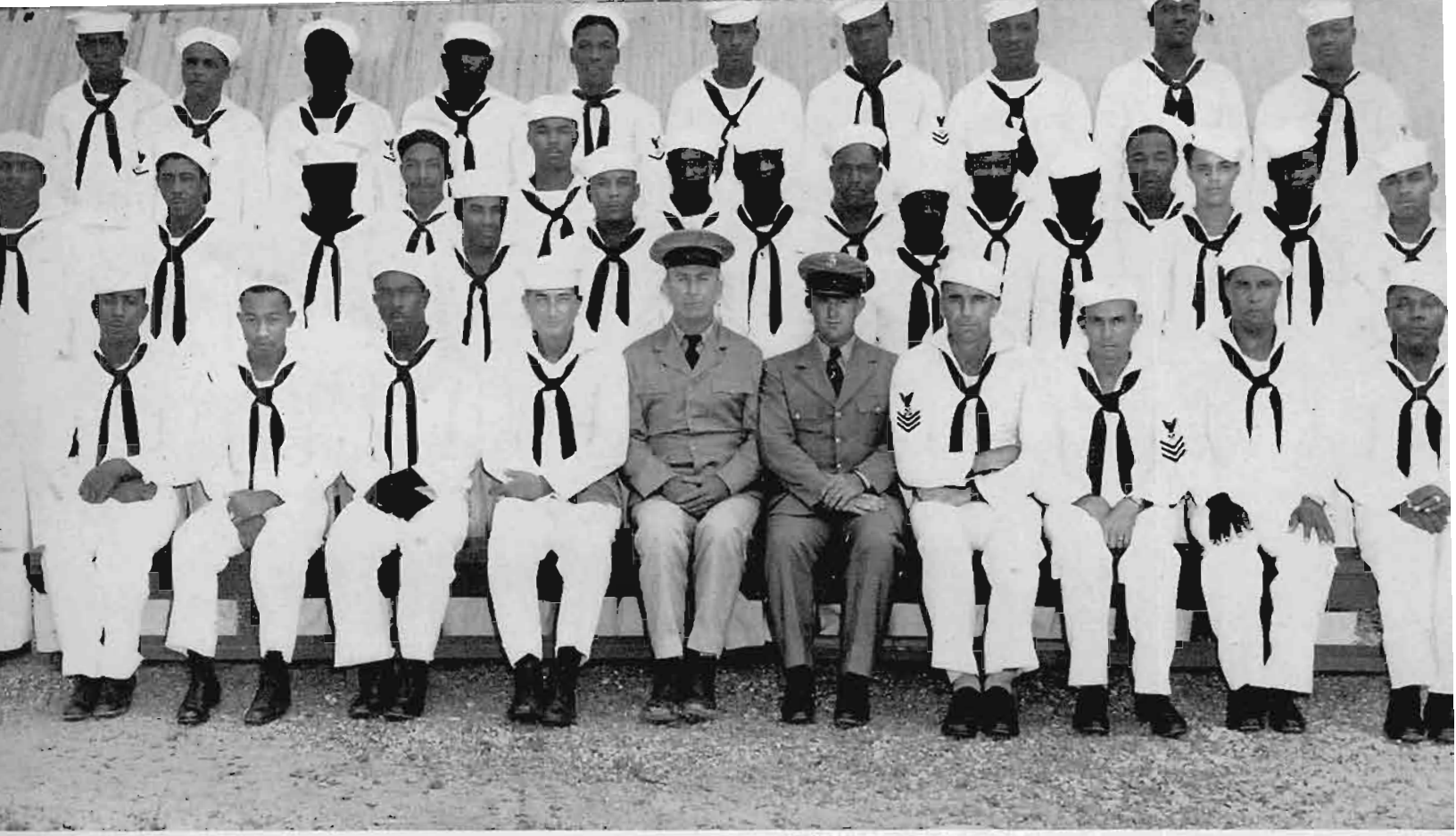
Now I lay me down to sleep,
I pray the Lord my soul to keep,
Grant no other sailor to take
My shoes and socks before I wake,
Lord guard me in my slumber
And keep my hammock on its number,
May no clews nor lashings break
And let me down before I wake.

Keep me safely in thy sight
And grant no fire drills tonight.
And in the morning let me wake
Breathing scents of sirloin steak.
God protect me in my dreams
And make them better than they seem.
Grant the time may swiftly fly
When myself shall rest on high,
In a snowy feather bed
Where I long to rest my head.

Far away from all these scenes
And the smell of half-done beans,
Take me back into the land
Where they don't scrub down with sand;
Where no demon typhoon blows—
Where the women wash the clothes.
God thou knowest all my woes—
Tend me in my home-sick throes—
Take me back and I'll promise then,
Never to leave my home again.

USO

A spot that spelled home was the USO on Mucurapo Road. Genial Bill Childs and Mrs. kept things going at a merry pace from the time the liberty convoys hit town until the MA's said, "2200, gang! Let's go."



COMPANY B · PLATOON 2

While in Gulfport, the present Platoon was formed under the leadership of CCM Glen D. Jones. Chief Jones was rerated from CM1c to CCM while we were in Gulfport. He was in charge of building of temporary tents in "Tent City" at NOB and after moving to our present home he has had charge (under Lt. F. D. Leigh) of the painting of the hangar.

CSF B. C. Connell has been our field chief. Under his supervision Company "B" work has been carried out with great success. He was assigned the task of expediting native labor for the hangar until the job was secured.

The men who made rerates were: Marvin Heflin, S2c to S1c; Henry Hepburn, S1c to SK3c; James J. Wheeler, S2c to S1c; Manuel Sylvester, SF3c to SF2c; Emery D. Harriston, S2c to S1c; Leo Lewis, S2c to S1c; Alfred D. Washington, S2c to S1c; John H. Peniston, S2c to S1c; Theo. Davis, S2c to S1c; Ben F. Poole, S2c to S1c; Avon C. Wright, S1c to SF3c; Thomas Parnell, Cox to MM2c.

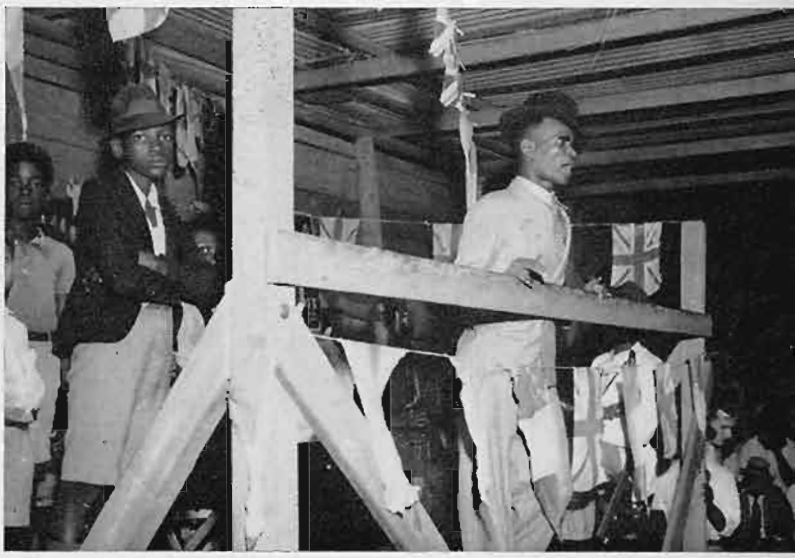
SEABEE FIGHTING SONG

We work like hell, we fight like hell,
And always come back for more—
The Navy's advance base engineers
On many a foreign shore!
On half the lousy islands
From here to Timbuctoo,
You'll find a hive of Seabees
A hell of a fighting crew!

Oh, when we land on Island "X",
We mean we're there to stay,
Mud, wind or rain or bombs or fog,
We build the Navy way.
And we just hope the axis
Will try to take it away—
For that's the chance we're waiting for—
To make those gangsters pay!

The Admiral dropped around
To chat the other night.
He said "Now, Boys, I know you work
But you've been trained to fight
So if there's any trouble
Don't stop to put on your jeams
Just drop your tools, pick up your guns
And protect those poor Marines!"

the Calypso



For some time past the authorities have been attempting to muzzle the calypso singer. In 1934 special legislation was introduced ostensibly for the purpose of controlling the Theatre and Dance Halls (Theatre and Dance Hall Ordnance, 1934) but to the initiated it was nothing but the introduction of the thin edge of the wedge which the powers that be hoped would eventually destroy the calypso and so gag the singer as to render this form of art innocuous, effeminate and definitely impotent. The calypso singers have refused to allow their art to be emasculated, and at various meetings have unanimously agreed to refuse to be intimidated even if it culminated in their having to pass through Gethsemane and ended in their crucifixion.

The Roaring Lion rejoiced when the colored American soldiers were leaving Trinidad. He liked the boys, but were glad they were going, because of the fact that since their advent, the economic situation of the girls (with whom he associated) was so improved that his advances were taken no notice of. He was therefore, since the departure of Uncle Sam's boys, once more in a position to dictate terms, and the threat he holds over them is described in his song.

YOU DON'T NEED GLASSES TO SEE

By Invader

Chorus

Myself and my Mopsie was eating bread (Repeat)
She took a comb and start to scratch my head,
In a romantic way she then held me tight,
Held on to my top lip and give me a bite,
I asked her darling why you bit me,
She said you fool you don't need glasses to see.

I then asked her the reason why,
She gazed into my eyes and started to cry,
She began to roll all over instead,
I say her eyes were getting red,
Like Whiskers Blake she held me in a clinch,
Kiss me on my cheek and give me a pinch,
I asked her darling why you pinch me,
She said you fool you don't need glasses to see.

I lie down on the bed very cool and calm,
She took her head and place it on my right arm
And she told me Invader dearie,
Honey you know I love you sincerely,
Yes I was getting on as though I didn't care,
She took a feather and started tickling my ear,
I asked her darling why you tickle me,
She said you fool you don't need glasses to see.

She then got up and in a plight,
She said Invader is trouble in here tonight,
She locked the door and hid the key,
She said honey you know you torturing me,
I made a move to go she said not a foot,
She grip me in my collar and give me a butt
I asked her darling why you butt me,
She said you fool you don't need glasses to see.

I referred to Celestain and Mahabir,
I said as though you want to send me to Carrera,
She said to do so I won't fail,
Stupid man like you should be sent to jail,
She said you know what happening and yet you playing shy,
She slapped me in my face and cuff me in my eye,
I asked her darling why you cuff me,
She said you feel you don't need glasses to see.

PAM PALAM

Chorus

How the rats and bats must be feeling
How for their fruits they have to go searching
La oo la oo! they said the natives blithe
And they much prefer to carry their tops for gigs docksite
But pemicion they ain't able much longer
Because they're packing back every blooming soldier

So Pam palam you too smart
But note I ain't a refuge cart
And if you enter my bachelor
You'll be paid a penny in silver paper

For the sake of couple dollars
They turn their backs to their native lovers
Forgetting, they were always their sponsors
Oh! ye, ungrateful sinners and snipers
They left the Old bone, as the story go
And greedily snapped at the shadow
But now the stone they were once rejecting
Have become the corner stone of their blooming building

Long ago these ships were too busy
To ask them for a cruise, you wouldn't be crazy
They used to cruise their ships to the soldiers
And their anchoring spot was Pearl Harbour
But now they dive bomb their decks and their anchor
And they left their bows taking water
You can hear them shouting ship ahoi
But the soldiers jeering by shouting ma voi

I hear the talk how women were bawling
Young and old, the night the soldiers were leaving
Some had already reach the winning pole
Others on the verge of scoring their first goal
Meaning that the mops the soldiers met single
Now they're gone, they leave bunch of them double
And what they got for their Christmas greetings
Are in front of them like some blooming mountain.

COMPANY B · PLATOON 3

Platoon 3 was reorganized under the leadership of CSF Alex Donaldson. Chief Donaldson is one of the first chiefs assigned as chief of a Platoon. This Platoon has many fine workers and when called on for any detail, can and will come through with flying colors. Chief Donaldson had charge of installing sprinkler system in the warehouse at N.O.B. and was assigned to installing water and sewer main on our present job. Chief Charles Blood, another one of our outstanding chiefs, was detained in the States when we came to Trinidad but joined the company the latter part of the year.
The rerates in Platoon 3 are:

Irving Green, CM3c to CM2c; Lonnie Thurmond, S1c to CM3c; Verlie Smith, S2c to S1c; Paul T. Mann, S2c to S1c; Kirby Washington, S2c to S1c; Arthur Farris, CM3c to CM2c; Fred Phillips, S2c to S1c; Charles Muldrow, CM3c to CM2c; Harold Fowler, S2c to S1c; Levi Tell, S2c to F2c; Eugene Pennington, F1c to MM2c; Jessie Hudson, S1c to CM3c; Rochelle Smith, S2c to F2c; John Nora, S2c to S1c.

ALWAYS FIRST

There's a buzz about the Seabees
Going the rounds these days
From the public's idle chatter
To presidential praise.

Because on all the battle fronts
Where going is the worst,
The lifted smoke of battle shows
The Seabees got there first.

A tough Marine on Guadalcanal
Choked back a muttered curse,
The Navy boys sure stole his stuff
Those Seabees got there first.

And up on Attu's foggy crags
Where Jap insects were worst,
The Army saw as they advanced
The Seabees were there first.

They're just a brand new outfit
That wears the Navy blue,
But no matter what the job may be
Their motto is "Can Do."

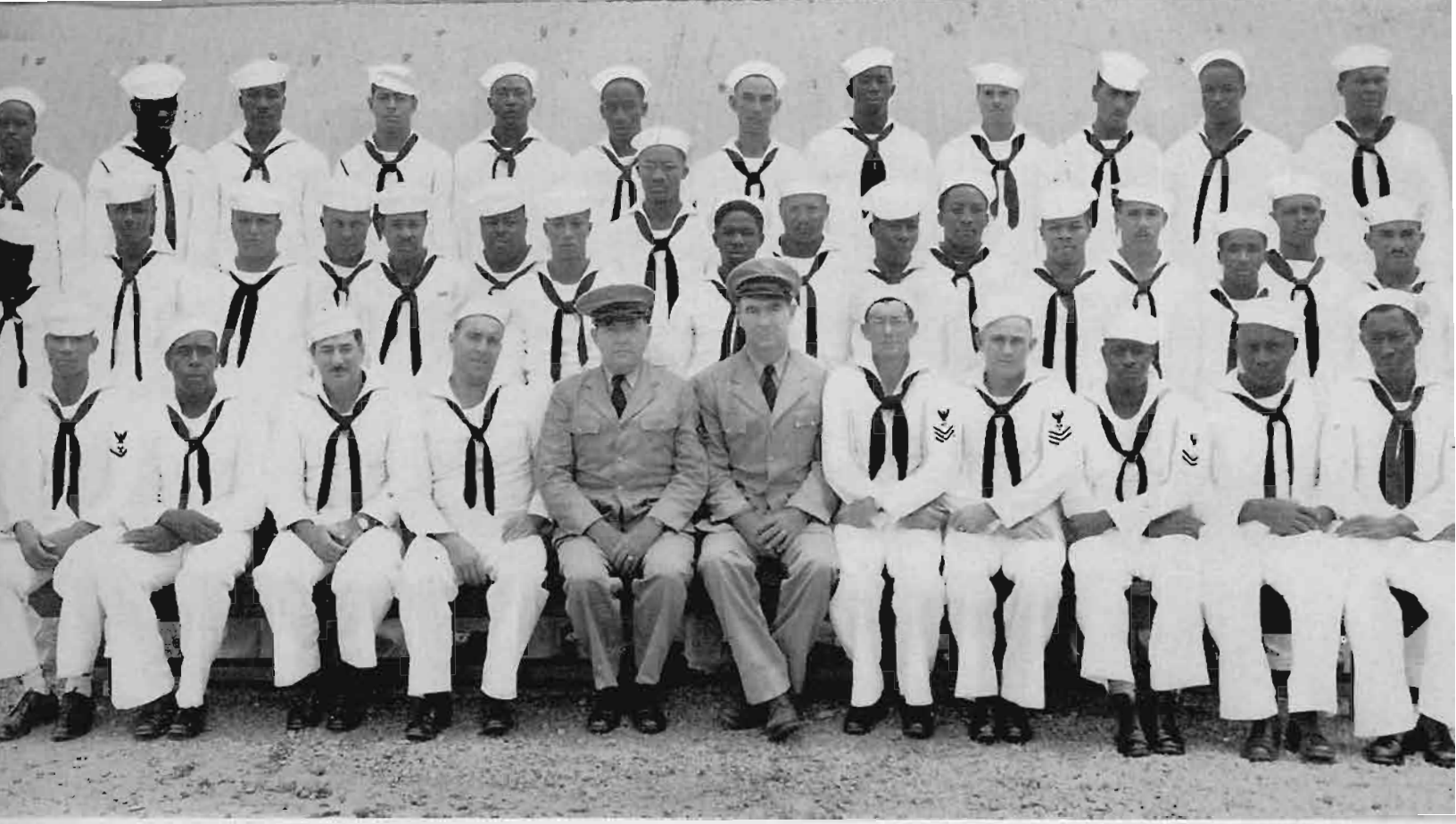
They're right at home on land or sea
And at the guns' first burst,
In every scrap for Uncle Sam
The Seabees get there first.

L. W. Bird, F1c,

Aleutian Seabee.

TRANSPORTATION

Top picture gives one an idea of the tremendous equipment needed for transportation. Below is a group of the 80th's manpower force to maintain this operation.



COMPANY B · PLATOON 4

Platoon 4, one of the largest platoons in Co. B, is under the leadership of Chief C. E. Drake, who is also Company B Adjutant, replacing Chief William Duvall who was transferred to the States for an officer training course. Chief Drake, after arriving in Trinidad, was assigned with Ensign Carter and a group of 1st class men for construction work on the Island of St. Lucia. Comdr. Cantey received a commendation for their "4.0" job. Chief Drake was rerated just before the Battalion left Gulfport. In this platoon with Chief Drake we have Chief Victor Walker. Chief Walker just lately made his CPO rating. He has been connected with the garage and machine shop since we have been on the island. The rerates in this platoon are: Clarence Spearman, S2c to S1c; Robert Dallas, S2c to S1c; Leonard Howard, S2c to S1c; Edward Truitt, S2c to S1c; Talby Dupuy, S1c to CM3c; Henry Page, S1c to Cox; Clarence Anderson, S1c to MM3c; Roxey Harris, AS to S2c; John H. Madison, S2c to S1c; Percy L. Ratcliff, S2c to S1c; Charley Prentiss, S2c to S1c; John J. Farr, F2c to F1c; Sherman Freeman, S2c to S1c; Thomas Pellman, S2c to S1c; Lewis Haygood, S2c to S1c; Lewis McHenry, SF3c to WT2c, and William Ellis, S1c to CM3c.

A SWEETHEART'S PRAYER

Dear Lord above, I pray to Thee
Watch over my loved one—just for me.

I can't be with him
That I know
But in mind, I'm with him
Wherever he may go.

Wherever he travels
On land or on sea
Take care of him—just for me.

He's all I've got—so please be kind
See that he's always healthy and fine
Keep him happy—free from sorrow
Until that future bright tomorrow.

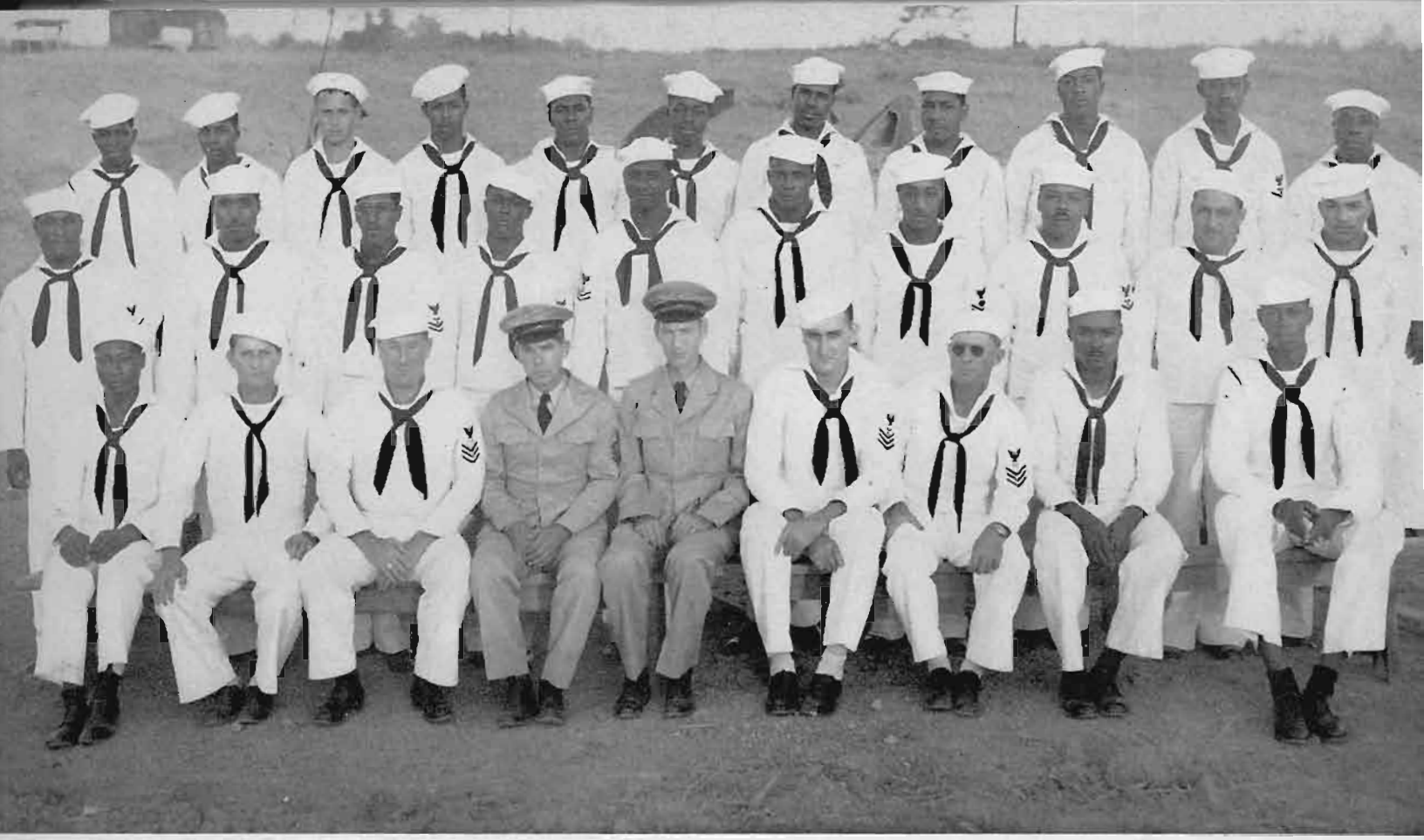
That day he sailed away
My heart went with him, too
And now I'm left alone
Lonesome, sad, and blue.

Let him have courage, faith and trust
And he'll come home—he must.

Elanor E. Shirk, Jr.

OPEN AIR MARKETS

Open air markets are a familiar sight throughout the island. All baking and cooking is done on the sidewalks . . . nothing is covered. Large crowds may be seen shopping at these markets at all hours of the day.



COMPANY B · PLATOON 5

This, another of our larger platoons, has as its "skipper" M. L. Zaleski, who was rerated about Feb. 1st, 1944. Having gained his rerate by hard work, he is now making a good leader. Chief Zaleski was assigned to erecting the tents in our camp and was also assigned to the building of offices and storage in the hangar. Chief L. L. Bridges is assigned to Maintenance at N.A.A.F. Sedell Rabb, S2c to S1c; Charles R. Wharton, S2c to S1c; Eddie Walker, EM3c to CM2c; John W. Swift, S2c to S1c; Walter J. Henry, S1c to MM3c; Leo Lewis, S2c to S1c; Dan Person, S2c to S1c; Eli Ross, S1c to MM3c; Arnold Collins, Cox to BM2c; J. Biggers, S1c to MM3c; Warren C. Smith, EM3c to EM2c; Arthur Allen, F2c to WT3c; Jessie Rowland, S2c to S1c.

★ ★ ★

The color pictures on pages 56 and 78 illustrate some of the special photography by Chief Carpenter Howard E. Webb, CEC-V(S), USNR, Company "B" Officer.

While stationed at the Seabees, Davisville, R. I., Chief Webb started production of this yearbook in Providence, R. I., where he supervised the making of these colored pages and several of the black and whites before moving on to the West Coast.

COMPANY B · STRAGGLERS

Front Row, Left to Right:

Charlie L. Hill, S1c, Manor, Texas.
Earl Reed, MM2c, 8800 Edinburg St., New Orleans, La.
Nicholas R. "Little Fellow" Tirone, CM1c, 32 Madeline Ave., New Rochelle, N. Y.
Jack Young, CSF.
John Beeler Lindemood, EM1c.
Robert Henry, MM3c, No. Little Rock, Ark.
Jonathan McCone, CM3c, 643 G. Court, Blodgett Homes, Jacksonville, Fla.

Middle Row:

Excell Williams, S1c, 205 So. Robinson St., New Orleans, La.
Dan James Lee, S1c.
John Sealey, F1c, 28 Benton St., Columbus, Ga.
Willie Lee Bryant, S1c, 295 E. Milkwoue St., Detroit, Mich.
Huey Minor, S2c.
Wilburt McGhee, CM3c, 6031 No. Robertson St., New Orleans, La.
Nathaniel R. Nocho, MM3c, 157 W. 123rd St., New York, N. Y.

Back Row:

James Hinshaw, S2c.
Preston Dobbins, S1c, Brent, Ala.
Joseph Holloway, S1c, RFD 421, Portsmouth, Va.
Lewis Orange, MM3c, 1212 So. 2nd St., Chickasha, Okla.
Hurlen Bryd, S2c, Atlanta, Ga.
Charles J. Johnson, SF3c, 1668 10th St., Oakland, Calif.
Sylvester Strong, MM3c, 75 Gammon Ave., Atlanta, Ga.

★ ★ ★

Upon finding a piece of limburger cheese Poll Parrot was perplexed as to what it was, so he hopped up on a nearby post and eyed the cheese.
A cat, passing by, found the cheese and began to cover it with sand.
Ruffling his feathers, Polly said, "By gad, that's what I thought."

COMPANY B • PLATOON 6

Platoon 6 is under the leadership of K. M. Houk. Chief Houk, when in Camp Holliday was with Transportation and made his rerate to chief there. Since coming to Trinidad he was placed in charge over heavy equipment maintenance at the garage. Chief L. H. Switzer, also in this platoon, is one of the original chiefs of the 80th. His detail for the past few months has been with N. A. A. F.

The rerates of this platoon are:

Horace Patterson, S1c to CM3c; Albert Ross, S2c to S1c; Curtis Frazier, S2c to S1c; Walter Fletcher, S2c to S1c; Clovis Davis, S2c to S1c; Rinnier Foster, S1c to CM3c; Leslie Gardner, SF3c to MM2c; J. C. Randle, S2c to S1c.

ADVICE TO THE LASSIES!

If you would be a sailor's wife,
His speech you must not spurn.
Because to lead the Navy life,
You've simply got to learn:
That bread is "punk" and coffee "mud" and water "angel wine,"
That floors are "decks," a "billet" a bunk and a "hawser" is a line.
That officers are all "goldbraids" and any land's the "beach";
That "shoot the breeze" describes the thing the civilians call a speech.
That married sailors are "lashed up" if "squared away" or not;
That if your romance has "fouled up" it's trouble that you've got.
But there's this consolation for new wives of Gold and Blue,
The Navy has not other words for: "Darling, I love you."

★ ★ ★

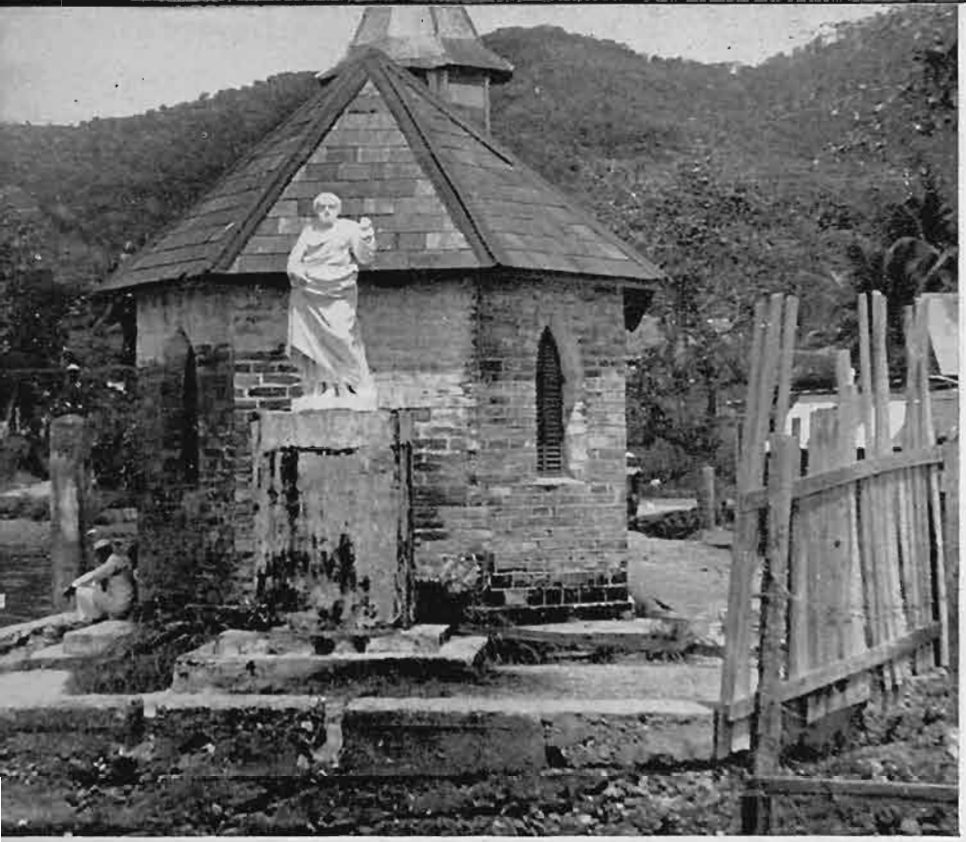
Husband: "An apple a day will keep the doctor away."
Wife: "It's too late for apples now."

COUNTRY CHURCH

This beautiful country church nestles among the cocoanut palms on Mayaro Beach.

A NATIVE PRIEST

Above is a native Priest praying in his sacred Shrine. The statues in the background are the equivalent of stations in the white man's religion. In the foreground is a picture of the Sacred Cow that is worshipped in Trindad.



THE CHURCH BY THE SEA

This small ancient chapel is one of the unique sights at Cocorite. It is strictly a fisherman's church and the statue of St. Peter (whom the Master referred to as "Fisher For Souls") watches over them while they ply their trade in the beautiful Gulf of Paria.

CARP. WILLIAM I. SMITH
1377 East 63rd Street
Chicago, Illinois

LT. (jg) WALTER R. BLOSS, JR.
Care Mrs. T. C. Thompson
Boaz, Alabama

LT. VIVIAN W. SILLS
1155 Bay Drive
Miami Beach, Florida

C.O.'C"

LT. V. W. SILLS, CEC-V(S), USNR is Company Commander of "C"—Born in Memphis, Tenn., in 1902—Educated in Canada—Grew up in the engineering profession starting his career on Railroads and Highway work—Two years spent on hydro-electric power plant construction in Northern Ontario—Most notable work: the Wright Memorial Monument at Kitty Hawk in 1931—Became a resident and civic leader of Florida—Resident Engineer and Building Administrator of Miami when commissioned as Lieutenant and entered active service with Seabees in January, 1943.

LT. (jg) WALTER R. BLOSS, JR., CEC-V(S), USNR, Security Officer—Born 13 February 1916, College Park, Georgia—Attended Florence State Teachers College and University of Alabama, receiving B.S. degree in Mechanical Engineering from latter 1939—Trained in Citizens Military Training Camp, U. S. Army—Prior to commission as Ensign associated with U. S. E. D. in Jacksonville, Florida—January 1943 assigned duty with 80th—In addition to duty as Security Officer, keeps busy as Junior Officer in Company "C," Welfare Fund Treasurer, Recreation Officer with interests in N. A. A. F.—CB Theatre, Bands, U. S. O. and all recreational facilities—As Security Officer heads M. A. A. force, Guard Company, Fire Department and is Safety Engineer for Construction.

CARP. WILLIAM I. SMITH, CEC-V(S), USNR, Company "C" Officer—Born in the "Windy City," Chicago, Ill.—31 July 1911—Owes Electrical Engineering background to University of Illinois—Schooled in basic and advanced R. O. T. C. (Signal Corps)—Prior to entering USNR as Warrant Carpenter, had extensive experience as Plumbing Contractor (licensed Master of the State of Illinois)—Indoctrination course at Camp Peary—Assigned duty with 80th, December 1943—OinC 80th Maintenance detail at Public Works Department, N. A. A. F.

LT. JACK M. McCAUSLAND
Care R. Emmett Kerrigan
Hibernia Bank Building
New Orleans, Louisiana

LT. JACK M. McCAUSLAND, CEC-V(S), USNR—perhaps the most debonair officer of the 80th—Born 16 August 1911, Cleveland, Ohio—Attended Tulane University, College of Civil Engineering, New Orleans, La.—Owned and operated contracting company in New Orleans for seven years—Later on staff of National Gypsum Company and Ingalls Shipbuilding Corporation, Pascagoula, Mississippi, in engineering capacity—Commissioned Lieutenant (jg) and ordered for duty with the 80th—12 January 1943—Duties: Executive Officer, Company "C" and Battalion Camouflage Officer—Detached for temporary duty with 11th U.S.N. Construction Regiment after arrival on Island "X", September 1943—Assigned by Regimental C. O. to Staff of OinC, New Construction Activities where "I acted as Liaison Officer for the 80th CB's."

ERECTING THE DOORS FOR THE HANGAR.

COMPANY C · PLATOON 1

Front Row—Seated—Reading from Left to Right:

Edward E. Kirkpatrick, 1503 No. 4th Ave., Knoxville, Tenn.

Winfred N. Hall, Box 113, Sheridan, Ark.

John W. Richter, 312 Pearsall Ave., Cedarhurst, R. I.

Hudson F. McMullen, Henryetta, Okla.

Felix E. Hernandez, Leesville, La.

Wade H. Cooper, Jr., 1708 New Boston Rd., Texarkana, Texas.

Raymond C. Goodness, 229 San Carlos, Sausalito, Calif.

Hearn W. Tidwell, 907 E. Maclemore Ave., Memphis, Tenn.

Back Row—Standing:

Aaron Bridges, 2919 M½ Rear, Galveston, Texas.

Roy A. Nunes, 746 E. 224th St., Bronx, N. Y.

William Anderson, 1347 Roosevelt Rd., Chicago, Ill.

Landry Williams, 512 W. 7th St., Port Arthur, Texas.

William L. Riley, 500 Bringer St., New Orleans, La.

Dean C. McConnell, 520 W. 144th St., Apt. 62, New York, N. Y.

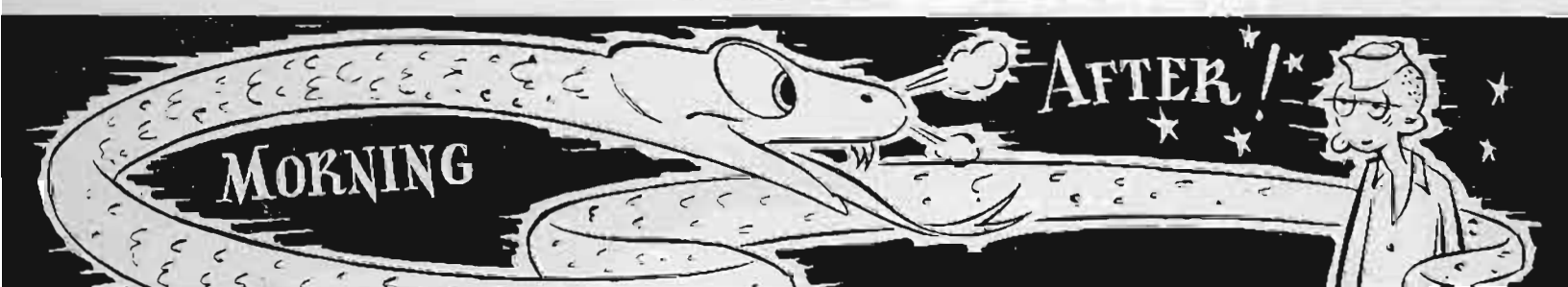
John W. Benton, 311 Cherry St., Fayetteville, Tenn.

Lawrence Hollie, 1306 Kakamazoo St., Haven, Mich.

★ ★ ★

"You say you are going to marry a woman with $10,000-a-year income and you try to convince me that's a love match."

"It is. I love money."



THE RIFLE RANGE HIKE

The scattered pine trees along the highway afforded little shade from the early afternoon sun. Sprawled full length taking advantage of each patch of shade, the long column was quiet, except for murmurs where the corpsmen were patching blisters and daubing iodine. From near the head of the column a shrill whistle split the air as a shout came back "Fall in!" The reclining figures came slowly to life with groans and sighs as packs were hoisted to tired shoulders and sore feet gingerly took up the weight. For a quarter of a mile along the road the column formed as the last of the weary men reluctantly fell in. Fifty yards to the front of the column, Lt. Sills with a sweeping overhand motion of his arm and a screech from the whistle turned and walking easily led us off. Conversation among the men was slight, each concentrating in getting sore muscles and tendons warmed to their task so that marching, laden with a heavy pack and .03 rifle would not be so downright painful. It was the hottest part of a hot day and our green coveralls were perspiration darkened. As the men slowly loosened the kinks in muscles and joints acquired during the last rest halt, some irrepressible spirit started a song as he marched. Soon the whole platoon was singing. The monotony of clumping along on the seemingly endless highway immediately began to lighten, the breeze was cooler, the sun's heat less stifling, and all down the long column groups began singing marching songs.

Early that morning back at the base 6 x 6 convoy trucks were loaded high with duffle bags and pulled out for the Rifle Range. Riding, perched on top of the mound of bags, were the ones who for real and imaginary ills were unable to start the march. The more hardy men were beginning to assemble, gathering information right and wrong about where we were going, how far we would march that day, making bets as to who would make it, how to pack a pack, and bragging a little about shooting skill. As the baggage trucks pulled out the men riding the trucks defiantly yelled back answering the jeers of "Goldbricks" and "Sack Boys" that followed them out of hearing.

At last came the command to fall in. With the noise quieted, the commands "left face; forward march!" started the day for us. Only a few had ever marched with pack and rifle before. They knew what to expect and started off with an easy shuffle, shifting the pack straps to a natural position and exploring, with their minds, feet and shoes to mark any necessary changes at the first halt. Others, exhilirated by the fresh morning air, the spirit of adventure, and by their natural healthy energy, strutted along as on parade. Our first rest halt, after about two miles, barely took us off the base. Pack adjustments were made, shoes were tightened or loosened and then for the first time came the question, "How much farther do we have to go?" Laughter greeted this. The men were noisy with "big talk" and laughter. The whistle to fall in caused a scramble back to the road. By plan, which some one in authority somewhere had found out somehow, we were to walk fifty minutes and rest ten. In many ways the first 50 minutes marching was enjoyable. It was during the cool of the morning, very few of the men were developing blisters, packs were settling and feeling natural, songs were sung with volume and cheerfulness that spoke of high spirits. The civilians were just going to work as we passed out through the northern edge of town. They stopped and stood watching us pass. We were marching informally at route step but unconsciously the men's shoulders snapped back, their step became brisk and military. MAA's had been posted at intersections holding back traffic. Military equipment does something to a man and we were a proud lot as we slowly wound out of town.

The next halt was welcomed, and packs were shed, shoes removed, and many a sigh of relief given as men stretched out in the grass along the road unmindful of the heavy dew. Blisters were more numerous and the question "How far we gotto go?" didn't bring laughter. The whistle to fall in caught many with their shoes off and the column formed more slowly than after the first halt.

As the sun climbed higher, the morning breeze died out. Heat began to cause the highway to shimmer in the distance as if it were covered with steaming water. A few more rest stops, each welcomed as it came and mourned as it left and the rumor of food passed up and down the column magically. Afar ahead the lead men of the column had sighted a chow truck and water trailer. Paces were quickened unconsciously and soon an impatient column was standing by "rig for chow."

But there were no huge kettles of G. I. chow! "What the hell are they so late starting dinner for?" "What's that in the truck?" This was a fine time to just be starting to break open crates! And the crates all are alike, marked with a big "K" on the ends. "Hey, Mac, they're going to give us "K" rations for chow!" "K rations, what's that?" "That little box? Say buddy, how about giving me three of them!" Remarks flew back and forth as the "K" rations were distributed, the men ordered to stay put in the small field, and then told to

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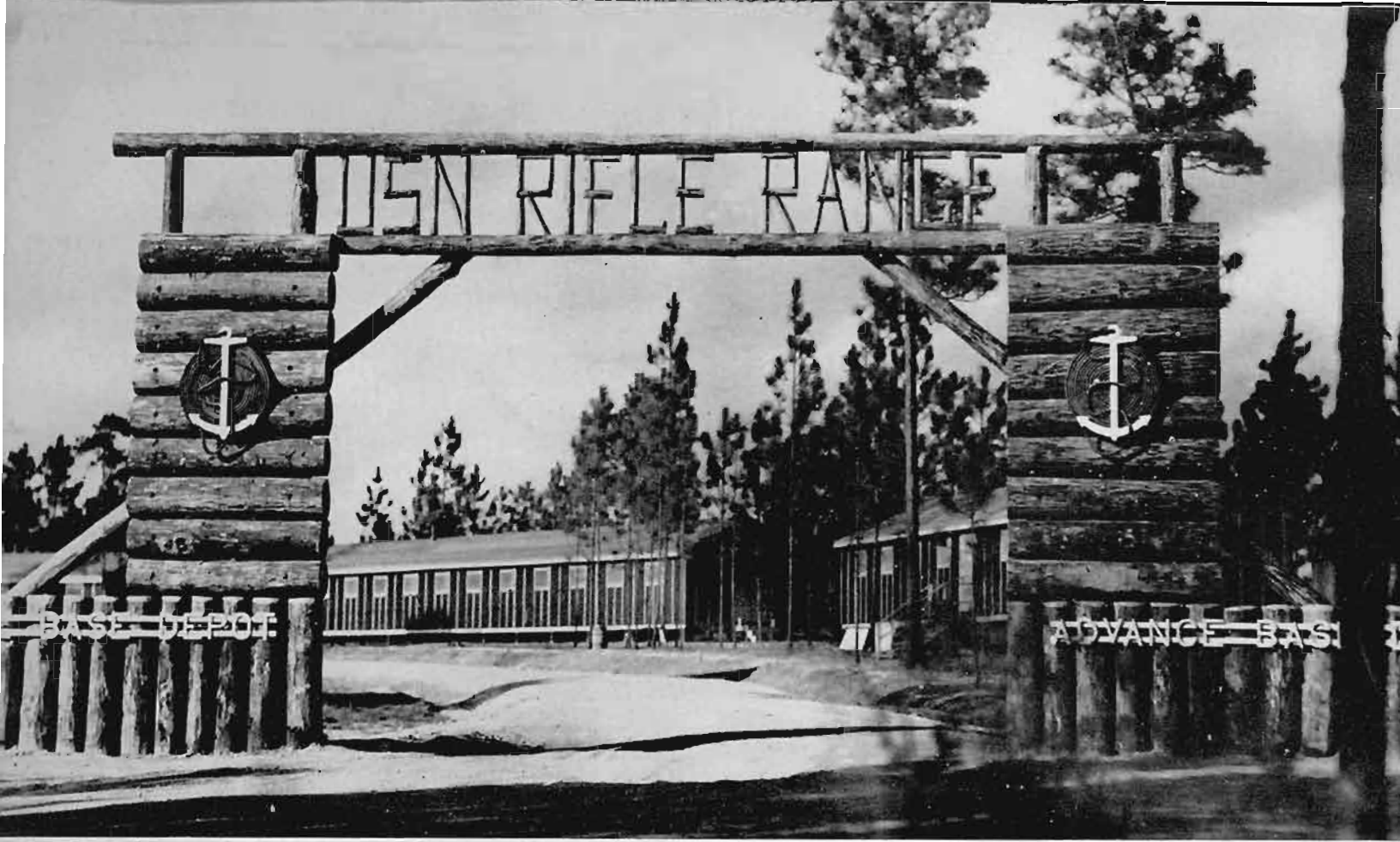
USN RIFLE RANGE
BASE DEPOT
ADVANCE BASE

52
63

The Rifle Range Hike

fall out and turn to. Now "K" rations contains no instructions to hungry men as to what to do with them —that's not needed. Wrappings flew, and information as to what was found was shouted back and forth. Most ate with gusto, washing the dry down with the wet, and smacking the lips over the rest. But others picked the dinner over, eating little, and grumbling about that. A short rest after the meal and all too soon the whistles began their screeching. Struggling back into the straps of the pack more than one Seabee was sure that some practical joker had filled the pack with rocks or lead. They ripped 'em open — no lead—no rocks—just the same "GI" gear. Canteens were filled after a last slug of water and slowly the column formed. Sammy Seabee was suddenly conscious of at least a thousand new muscles; for each muscle stiffened from cooling during the dinner hour, shrieked its protest at being called on to take up its job. And there just didn't exist a comfortable position for rifles that now seemed to weigh as much as machine guns. The first hundred yards were the hardest as we hobbled off. Since the third rest period that morning men had fallen out from blisters that just wouldn't be stepped on. For the first hour after dinner more yet fell out to be picked up by the truck following for that purpose. The rest settled down to the grind of pushing scenery behind them by "putting one in front of the other." The afternoon wore on and the feet wore out. At last when all that could be heard was the creak of gear and the crunch of GI shoes, the most welcome news that only a mile or so remained to the Midway Camp shot a new burst of energy through the lagging legs of the men. A few long minutes later we were standing, drooping, surrounded by tents. Short order—and chiefs assigned men to tents, and the column melted among the trees into the tents. After packs and rifles, even before helmets were laid aside, off came shoes. Chow call which followed closely provided hot coffee—and more "K" rations. For the last few miles the mental image of a hot meal had been so strong in most men's minds that one could almost see a tangible form of steak and potatoes, steaming hot, with rolls and coffe floating over the column. But hungry men will eat and "K" rations aren't so bad if your appetite is keen enough. To call the stream a river stretches the imagination but that's what it was called. It approached the camp from the west, made a right angled curve to the south and trickled out of sight between high sandy-clay banks and a dense jungle-like forest. Where the curve was, a deep pool had been washed out making an ideal "swimmin' hole." It wasn't long till shouts and yells and great splashings of water proved again that Seabees are quick in "catching on." The water was cold and refreshing. Blistered, hot, aching feet thrust into the water was a fulfilling of one of life's greatest desires. Back on the highway while crossing bridges you could see the wishful speculation in the eyes as their owners creaked their necks around to glance down at the clear shadowed pools and riffled swift water. Now the dreams were realized!

One couldn't be positive that anyone was awake for taps, for it was an exhausted four hundred who stretched tired frames out on cots shortly after sundown. Morning came too soon. That was an undisputed fact to all of us. "K" rations for breakfast didn't bring any cheers either. With an early start we hoped to make the second leg of the hike by noon. Having a foretaste of what was ahead the men were quieter on this second beginning. But good health and high spirits aren't long kept silent and serious. Laughter and jokes, ballads sung, tales retold to men bursting to tell one of their own, made the column have life other than its movement. Within an hour we crossed a main highway after waiting for a convoy of army infantry to pass riding by. "Join the Navy and walk around the world while the Army Infantry wear out the seats of their pants." These and other good natured remarks bounced off tin hats and caused laughter or growls depending on the state of a man's feet. We were told that this second lap on the journey was shorter than that of the first day but for the last four miles they must have used a rubber tape to measure the distance.

On a gravel road, dusty, hot, sticky, tired, a man couldn't be expected to be as cheerful as a Spring morning. By now, when the whistle shrilled for falling out for a rest halt, most of us had resting down to an effective routine. First the rifle unslung and laid down, then the pack slipped off, next shoes loosened, a sip of water, and, a-h-h stretch out full length as the mind concentrated on relaxing every muscle, then did some relaxing itself. The worst thing about stopping was having to start again.

Topping one of the last few hills a grey curtain of rain marched down upon us. The first few drops were a welcome relief from the heat, then when soaking wet and chilled the sunshine didn't seem so bad. We sloshed along wet to the skin expecting each hill and curve to hide the gateway to the Rifle Range camp. The rain dwindled and stopped and the sun, brilliant as always after a summer rain, began to heat the dripping country side 'till mists rose. First the shoulders and then the knees of our coveralls steamed dry. Perspiration, temporarily shut off by the chill of the rain, renewed its rivulets down backs and noses. Some of the men hadn't got much wetter from the rain than they were from sweat. As the sun scattered the rear guard clouds of the rain storm, it grew hotter and hotter. Wet feet generated blisters where no blisters were before. Determination alone carried many of the remaining men on the last lap.

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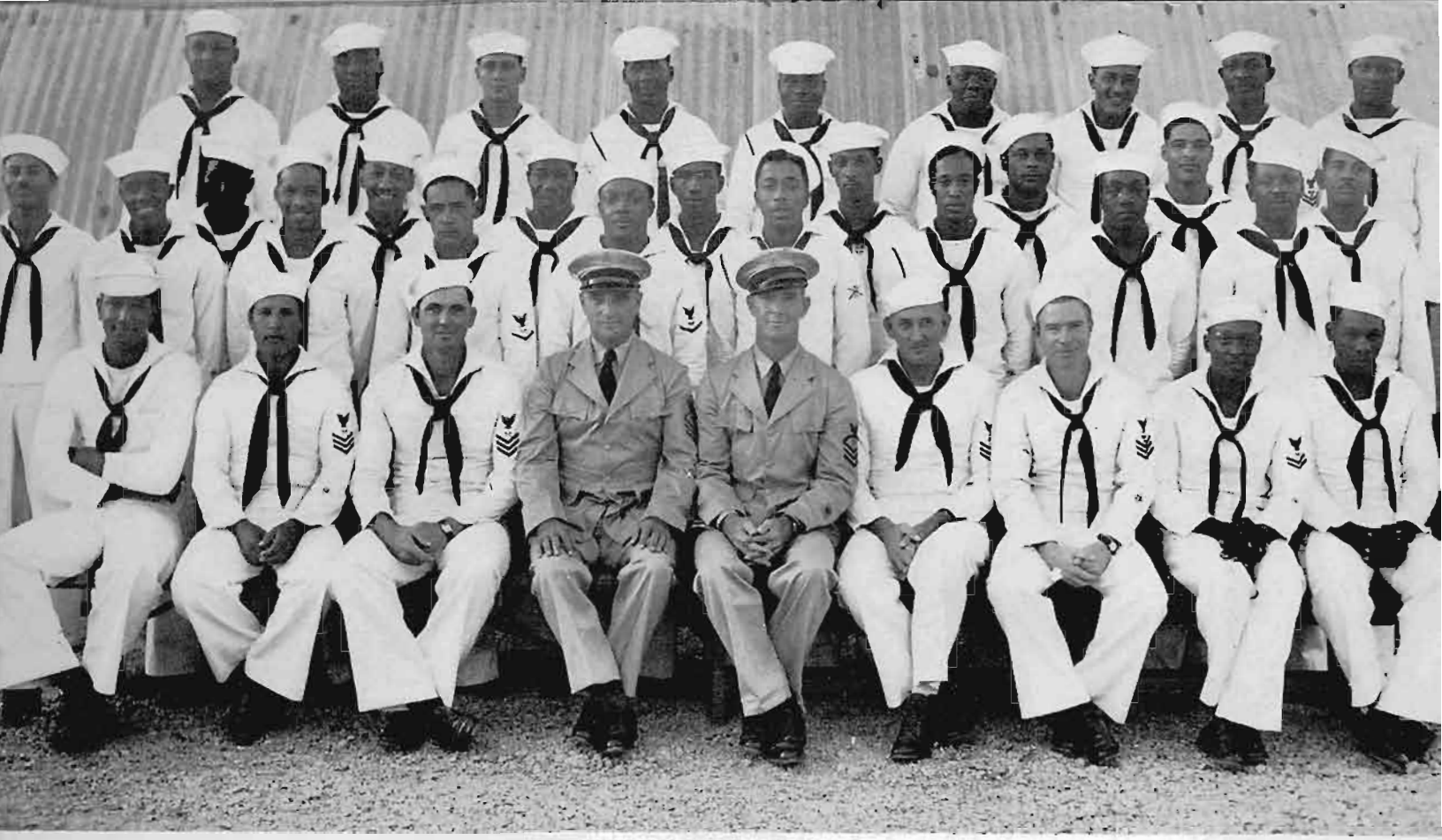


COMPANY C · PLATOON 2

Front Row—Seated—Reading from Left to Right:

John H. Stubbs, 519 No. 21st St., Muskogee, Okla.
Pablo Villarreal, 1402 Callaghan St., Laredo, Texas.
James R. Stanley, 206 E. 29th St., Houston, Texas.
Albert M. Hickcox, 33 Burkehill Apts., Wenatchee, Wash.
Robert B. McClure, Box 143, Hico, Texas.
James W. McLeod, 412 Wayne Ave., Dallas, Texas.
John H. Schroder, Jr., 783 Kerr Ave., Memphis, Tenn.
Henry M. Peques, 1008 Fairmount St., N. W., Washington, D. C.
Louis A. Mitchell, 1702 Division St., Baltimore, Md.

Second Row:

Joseph S. Irving, Sr., 1530 Jefferson St., Jacksonville, Fla.
Edward Owens, 2939 Federal St., Chicago, Ill.
Elmer H. Barnes, 603 Berry Court, Houston, Texas.
William A. Martin, 801 Spruce Ave., Shavon, Pa.
Jerome J. Detiege, 1324 Barracks St., New Orleans, La.
Frank F. Coutee, Route 1, Box 8, Cloutiville, La.
Orleen Savage, 1508 Isard St., Little Rock, Ark.
Tom F. Hilliard, Jr., 2118 E. 78th, Cleveland, Ohio.
Ivory S. Johnson, 3412 Senfort St., Dallas, Texas.
Gus E. Lacy, 546 No. Vodge St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Henry W. Adams, 1722 Harmany St., New Orleans, La.
James W. Spriggs, 1313 D. 14th St., North Chicago, Ill.
Winston Moffett, Route 1, Bay Springs, Miss.
Henry Wallace, 2439 Green St., Columbia, S. C.
Thomas C. Haynes, 4743 Indiana Ave., Chicago, Ill.
Maxie Neal, 2412 Norris St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Josiah H. Blount, 200 So. Grant St., Forest City, Ark.

Back Row:

Robert Scott, 4202 Oats St., Houston, Texas.
Joe Shepard, Jr., 406 E. 6th, Freeport, Texas.
Nathaniel Freeman, 78 Winnrkee Ave., Poughkeepsie, N. Y.
James Spears, 421 So. 28th St., Louisville, Ky.
William Crudup, 208 W. 9th St., Little Rock, Ark.
Robert F. Matthews, 300 Wayne St., Houston, Texas.
Thaddeus V. Jones, 1741 Vanburen St., So. Camden, N. J.
Luther Davis, P. O. Box 171, Dermall, Ark.
Ossye Brown, 5952 St. Antoine, Detroit, Mich.

Pets

COMPANY C · PLATOON 3

Front Row—Seated—Reading from Left to Right:

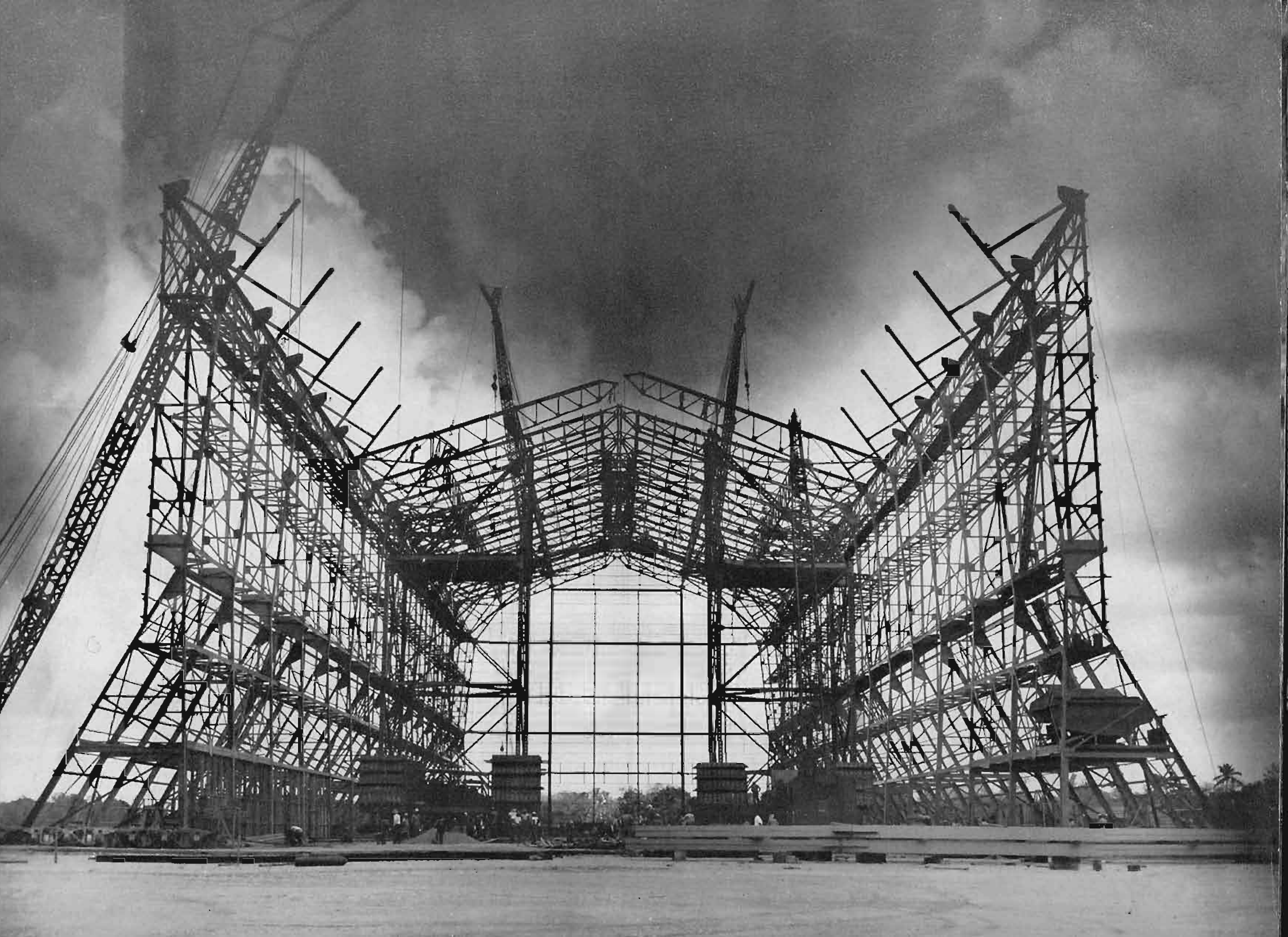
John F. Smith, Route No. 1, Box 230, Conroe, Texas.
Calvin Freddie, 603 Huskell St., Lake Charles, La.
Russell P. Hampton, 622 No. Eighth Ave., Portsmouth, Va.
Robert L. Furnace, Belton, Texas.
Thomas W. Richardson, Route No. 2, Erin, Tenn.
Virgil E. Dixon,, 527 S. W. 11th St., Oklahoma City, Okla.
William H. Bass, 609 Poplar St., Goldsboro, N. C.
William H. Harris, Jr., 838 Wilcox St., Petersburg, Va.

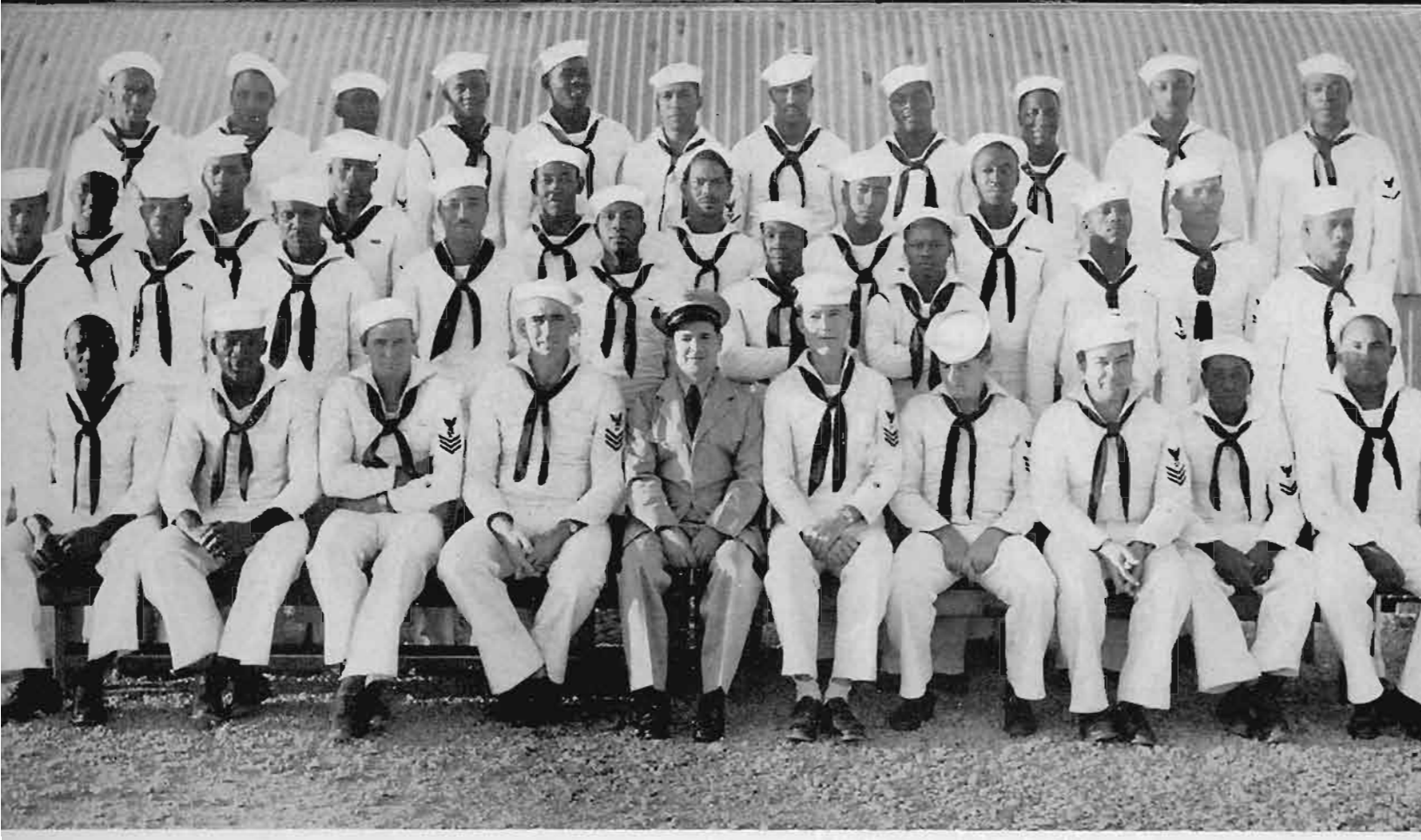
Second Row:

Anthony Bailey, 517 W. Ash St., Jackson, Miss.
William E. Gilmore, 417 No. Main St., Petersburg, W. Va.
Donald Holmes, 429 Highland Ave., Columbus, Ohio.
James Ballard, Jr., 2919 First St., New Orleans, La.
Tommie L. Shoto, Route No. 3, Box 39, Florence, Miss.
Leroy Marshall, 2230 Jefferson St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Calvin T. Hughes, 4605 Bangor St., Detroit, Mich.
Goldman Scott, 1902 Deschaumes St., Houston, Texas.
Hendrick P. Kibbe, 820 Broadway St., Galveston, Texas.
Silas J. Porterfield, 5005 Brown St., Philadelphia, Pa.
William S. Glenn, 1132 Washington St., Braddock, Pa.
William F. Cooke, 1314 W. 25th St., Indianapolis, Ind.
Sammie L. Shanks, 810 C St., N. E., Washington, D. C.
Leroy A. Cooper, 287 Louisiana Ave., New Orleans, La.
Louis White, 2722 Second St., New Orleans, La.
Charles C. Garrett, Lake Wales, Fla.
James Ambroise, 3704 Calliope St., New Orleans, La.

Back Row:

Floyd H. Hood, 2213 E. Market St., Greensboro, N. C.
Guy L. Smith, 410 No. 19th St., Muskogee, Okla.
Dames S. Eskridge, 2605 Commerce St., Little Rock, Ark.
George M. Cox, 2106 McCollah St., Baltimore, Md.
Percy L. Smith, 4050½ Neltron St., Houston, Texas.
Benjamin T. Morgan, Route No. 1, Box 66-A, Black Stone, Va.
Cornell Fichelberger, South Carolina.
Edward White, 2124 W. 4th St., Jacksonville, Fla.
Charles Hill, 1213 La St., Pine Bluff, Ark.
Henry D. Bolian, 514 Martin St., Jackson, Miss.
Donald Holt, 13982 Long St., Columbus, Ohio.





COMPANY C · PLATOON 4

Front Row—Seated-- Reading from Left to Right:

Jack Smith, 3600 2nd St., New Orleans, La.
Wyart Howard, Jr., 2319 So. Johnson St., New Orleans, La.
Joseph M. Tucker, Port La Vaca, Texas.
William M. Hamilton, 516 W. Walnut St., Seminole, Okla.
Samuel P. Melazzo, 797 No. 28th St., Baton Rouge, La.
Henry C. McCoy, Box 5th and Harrison, McAlester, Okla.
Elton McCauley, 1117 Devereux St., Jacksonville, Texas.
Raymond A. Shaffer, 46 Creek Rd., Fairfax, Calif.
Edgar E. Dockins, 4417 New Orleans St., Houston, Texas.
Arturo N. Semidey, 10 W. 103rd St., New York, N. Y.

Second Row:

Joseph J. Matthews, 4827 Parrish St., W. Philadelphia, Pa.
Versie L. Martin, 1004 B. Stalker Way, Alameda, Calif.
James J. Levi, 3831 Penn Ave., East Chicago, Ind.
Joe Williams, Route 4, Box 100, Magnolia, Ark.
William A. Taylor, 525 No. 1st St., Richmond, Va.
Johnny L. Killings, 2517 Ross Ave., Fort Worth, Texas.
James Clark, 2164 7th Ave., New York, N. Y.
S. O. Williams, 763 Gisard St., N. W., Washington, D. C.
James A. Love, 1221 Birch St., Pine Bluff, Ark.
Emile J. Carraway, 1827 8th St., New Orleans, La.
Thomas L. Bunting, 2243 10th St., N. W., Washington, D. C.
James W. Shelton, 1919 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill.
Eugene George, 50 W. 129th St., Apt. 12, New York, N. Y.
James H. Jones, Stevens Ottery, Ga.
Earnest Route, 1174 Progress St., Baton Rouge, La.
Charles A. Willis, 445 Saint Paul Place, Bronx, N. Y.
Ralph Wilson, 1234 Boston Rd., Apt. 16, Bronx, N. Y.

Back Row:

Lavon D. Ryals, 2717 E. 69th St., Cleveland, Ohio.
Taylor Williams, 169 A Church St., Belsoin, Miss.
Latheo Rice, 21 W. 12th St., New York, N. Y.
Royal S. Wright, 412 Bledsoe Ave., Raleigh, N. C.
Willie Cruse, 355 W. 145th St., New York 31, N. Y.
James E. Sneed, Box 344, Tyler, Texas.
Oscar A. Ossey, 1402 Oumaine St., New Orleans, La.
Frederick Jones, 710 So. Salcido St., New Orleans, La.
Clifton I. Foy, 2750 Fulton St., Chicago, Ill.
Edgar A. Lewis, 2452 Jerou St., Beaumont, Texas.
Harry Chatman, 411 E. Marshall Pl., Tulsa, Okla.

USO

Here at the USO on Wrightson Road service men gather for entertainment and relaxation . . . a favorite retreat. The many good works the USO has done for service men here will long be remembered.

COMPANY C · PLATOON 5

Front Row—Seated—Reading from Left to Right:

Moses Hayles, 301 McDoll St., Bristol, Tenn.
Major E. McCoy, 130 Beech Grove St., Fordyce, Ark.
Malvern J. Laningham, Laton, Calif.
James T. Pickel, R. F. D. 1, Box 305, Texas City, Texas.
Robert H. Watts, Sonora, Ky.
Walter F. Glisson, 334 Broad Ave., Albany, Ga.
John M. Stovall, General Delivery, New Gulf, Texas.
Marshall T. Shelton, R. F. D. 3, Kevil, Texas.
Dewey A. Frick, General Delivery, Chattanooga, Tenn.
Matthew Williams, R. F. D. 4, Box 864, Houston, Texas.

Second Row:

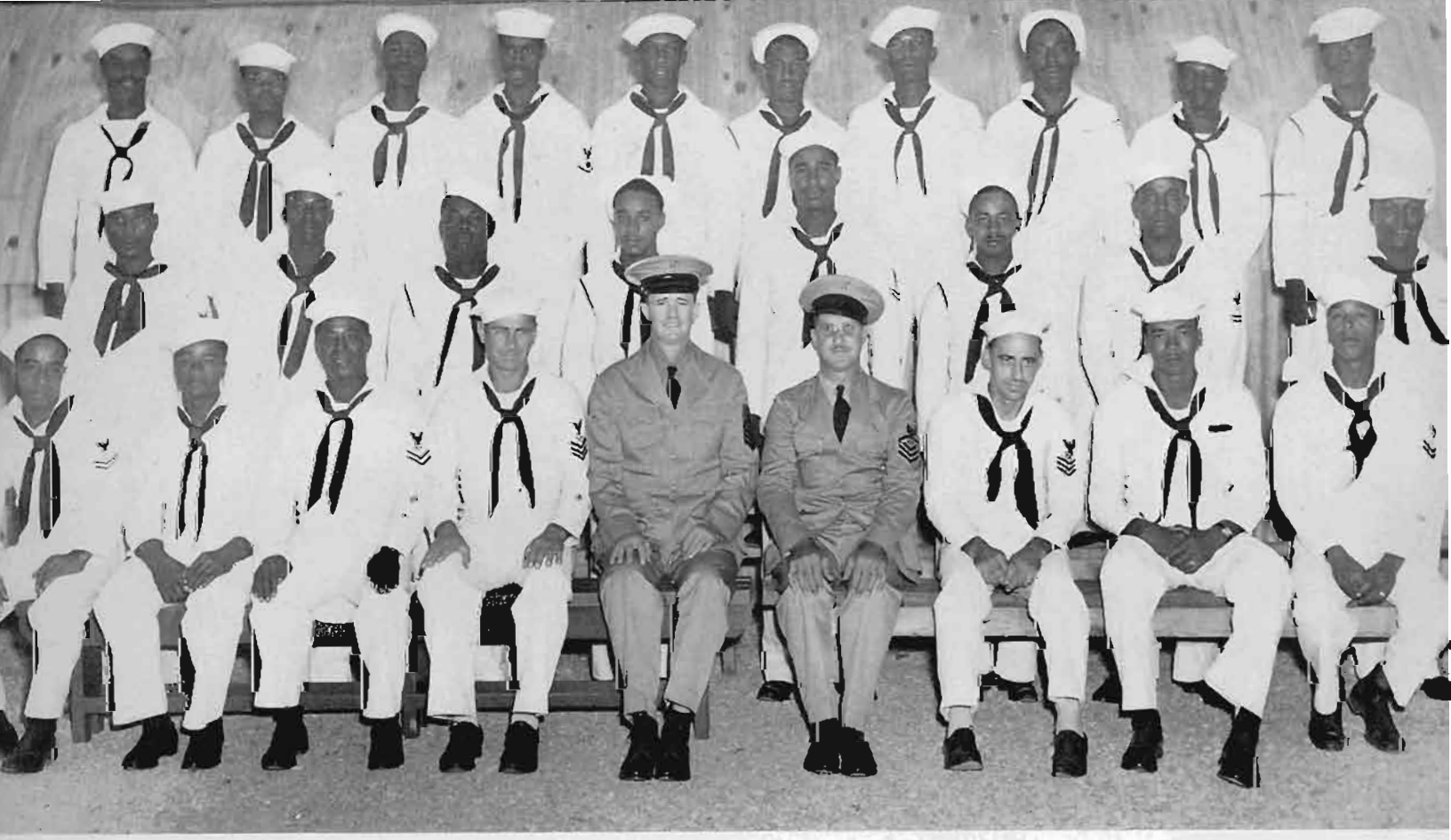
Preston G. Byards, 615 N. E. 4th St., Oklahoma City, Okla.
Brady Perry, 1321 1st Court West, Birmingham, Ala.
Frank A. Pennington, 1408 No. Owasso St., Tulsa, Okla.
Herbert E. Brown, 117½ N. W. 18th St., Miami, Fla.
Leroy Wallace, 2577 Del St., Gary, Ind.
Malcolm D. Reese, Sr., 1904 Ella St., Jacksonville, Fla.
John A. Chalmers, 41 Convent Ave., Apt. 5E, New York, N. Y.
Berry Richardson, 312 Jefferson St., Jacksonville, Fla.
George Cavitt, 904 W. 19th St., Bryant, Texas.
Clyde W. Blake, 802 E. 168th St., Bronx, N. Y.

Back Row:

Eddie Fuller, 1464 No. Roberson St., New Orleans, La.
Oscar, Lezine, 102 S. W. 7th St., Mineral Wells, Texas.
Arthur L. Roberts, 1014 Highland Ave., Tampa 2, Fla.
Thomas Keith, 2153 E. 49th St., Cleveland, Ohio.
Ewing M. Roberson, 5206 Williams St., Detroit, Mich.
Willie Jones, 3116 Ave. K., Galveston, Texas.
James E. Williams, 1916 Constantinople St., New Orleans, La.
Melvin L. Grant, R. F. D. 12, Box 12-139, Houston, Texas.
Lewis M. Shepard, 3307 Hutchins St., Houston, Texas.
Julies J. Nichols, 408 Girand St., Mineola, Texas.
Leon J. Heisser, 7029 Leake Ave., New Orleans, La.

COMPANY C · STRAGGLERS

Reading from Left to Right: Vernon L. Turner, Irving E. Douglas, Paul L. Arnwine, Romie L. Estes, Charles A. Williams, Coy McAllister, Ernest Phillips.



COMPANY C · PLATOON 6

Front Row—Seated—Reading from Left to Right:

Walter Overalls, 4265 W. Aldive St.

Clarence W. Moore, 1527 Portland Ave., Chicago Heights, Ill.

Paul V. LaRose, 1554 No. Johnson St., New Orleans, La.

Glenn W. Burlingame, 1105 S. E. Cora St., Portland, Ore.

Marvin E. Sherman, Jr., 4079 Parkside Drive, Dallas, Texas.

Winston E. Druilhet, 3712 Clematis Ave., New Orleans, La.

George V. Courrege, 92 Bryan St., Houston, Texas.

James W. Jennings, 921 St. Nicholas Ave., New York, N. Y.

Joseph G. Miller, 3524 Market St., Oakland, Calif.

Second Row:

Robert J. Rollins, 90 Gage Ave., Union 8, Texas.

Albert L. Mitchell, R. F. D. 3, Box 31, Gasper, Texas.

Steven Thomas, 402 W. Scott St., Tampa, Fla.

Frank R. Vanderburg, Jr., 36 Hubball Ave. Boston, Mass.

Curley L. Sloss, 540 N. E. 3rd St., Oklahoma City, Okla.

David Whittaker, 133 Pleasant St., Cambridge, Mass.

Virgil Scott, Box 246, Belton, S. C.

Felton Harris, 421 Dram Ave., Texarkana, Texas.

Hazel Watts, 49 E. 118 St., New York, N. Y.

James L. Williams, Betterton Circle Ave., Dallas, Texas.

Robert C. Troughber, R. F. D. 1, Box 207, Adams, Tenn.

Johannes B. Vessup, Jr., 44 E. 132nd St., New York, N. Y.

John H. Moore, 54 Massengill St., Haslehurt, Miss.

James R. Spencer, 523 Wyndotte St., Toledo, Ohio.

Arthur J. Bonner, 257 Cherokee St., New Orleans, La.

Winfred Spikes, 2111 10th St., Wichita Falls, Texas.

Herver L. Noble, 801 E. Queen Pl., Tulsa, Okla.

Fleming W. Reynolds, 221 Lombard St., Pittsburgh, Pa.

A NATIVE PRIEST

Typical of Island "X" is the Mendicant who greets you with outstretched arm wherever you may go. They are very often reduced to begging to get money and food for their church.

PALM AVENUE, ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS

LT. (jg) JAMES R. JOINER
1301 Second St.
Corpus Christi, Texas

LT. MARION R. COWPER
Kinston, N. C.

LT. EDWARD M. C. HENDERSON
Columbia, S. C.

CARP. MERWIN A. YOUNGER
70 Second Street
Woodland, Calif.

CARP. CLEATIS D. COLLOR
1002 N. E. 117th St.
Miami, Fla.

C.O.D.

CARP. LEE R. GRIFFIN
Kessler Field Civilian War Housing
Gulfport, Miss.

LT. EDWARD M. HENDERSON, CEC-V(S), USNR, Company "D" Commander—Born Columbia, S. C., 1902—Attended Clemson College, later received B.S. degree in Civil Engineering from the University of South Carolina—Came to the 80th when it was formed and has especially supervised substructure and paving projects of the Battalion, earning the designation as Construction Division Head on the LTA jobsite.

LT. MARION R. COWPER, CEC-V(S), USNR, Company "D" Officer and Malaria Control Officer of the 80th—Born 26 September 1909, Kinston, N. C.—Attended public schools of Kinston and Virginia Episcopal Preparatory School, Lynchburg, Va.—B.S. in Civil Engineering from University of North Carolina, 1931—Specialized in Malaria Control—Commissioned Lt. (jg) and came to 80th, 10 January 1943.

LT. (jg) JAMES R. JOINER, CEC-V(S), USNR, Company "D" Officer—Born 21 December 1915—Hails from Texas—B.S. degree in Civil Engineering from Texas A. and M. College, 1936, with two and a half years R.O.T.C.—Commissioned Ensign and came to 80th January, 1943.

CARP. CLEATIS D. COLLOR, CEC-V(S), Company "D" Officer and Electrical Engineering Officer, in charge of all electrical activities in Battalion—Born 14 April 1897, St. Joseph, Mo. —Four years with U. S. Marine Corps—Appointed Warrant Carpenter and reported aboard 80th in January, 1943.

CARP. LEE ROY GRIFFIN, CEC-V(S), USNR, Company "D" Officer—Born 11 September 1908, Mize, Miss.—Grew up in that vicinity and attended the local schools—Enlisted as Chief Electrician's Mate and called to active duty December, 1942—After "boot," became Company Adjutant until promoted to Warrant Carpenter, 15 January 1944.

CARP. MERVIN ALFRED YOUNGER, CEC-V(S), USNR—Born in Sunny California at the turn of the century—Appointed to his Warrant 10 March 1943 and was on active duty before a month's time.

SEABEES CAPTURE CAT ISLAND

(The Blow-by-Blow on "Our Amphibious Affair")

It was very early in the morning of 7 June 1943 when we are called from the "sack" to eat a hearty breakfast that is to be our last real meal before we go forth to meet the enemy for the first time. The first faint rays of the sun are shining through a clear sky as we finish our chow, grab our packs and rifles and get aboard trucks for the short ride to the pier and our waiting barge. Soon we have all clambered aboard and the order comes to shove off.

Thus, about one-half hour later the Seabees of the 80th Battalion, under the command of Lt. Fred F. Kravath, with Ensign E. L. Higgins as Executive Officer, head out to sea to capture Cat Island from the enemy and carve out a typical advance base there. This base is urgently needed for use by our Navy and Marine fliers to give them another stepping stone on the road to Tokyo; so we all realize the importance of our task.

The water is so calm that it resembles a sea of glass as Ensign Thompson, the Captain of the Barge, points the prow of our ship towards the objective. We are very heavily loaded with trucks, bulldozers, jeeps, refrigerators, field ranges, men's gear, and the thousand and one other things that it takes to build an advance base and completely sustain half a battalion of Seabees during the process. Men are perched everywhere for there is scarcely a foot of space that isn't filled with equipment and gear.
Our intelligence reports have indicated that there are several hundred enemy soldiers on the island and that we may also be attacked by enemy bombers from a base on a nearby island. However, we are hoping to surprise them since we will be coming from an unexpected direction.

The scorching sun is beating down upon us, and the shores of our objective are slowly materializing over the horizon when the call comes from the platoon leaders to distribute the "K" rations to everyone. This is, of course, greeted by gleeful shouts by the hungry Seabees. (Ed. Note: Oh, yeah!!) But realizing that this will probably be the last food we will get until we are safely established on Cat Island, it doesn't take long until the last bite has been downed. Word is then passed to fill all canteens with water and prepare for landing. Hurriedly the platoon leaders give last minute instructions to the men who are to form the attacking patrols that are to be the first ashore. They are to seek and wipe out any enemy that may be encountered.

Suddenly the barge grinds to an abrupt stop. . . THIS IS IT. . . The end gate on the front is quickly let down to form a drawbridge. Because of the heavy load we are unable to get very close to the shore and the water is waist deep but that doesn't stop the patrols who are now wading towards the beach with rifles and ammunition held high. They hit the beach, crouching low, and quickly fanning out dash forward into the fringe of scrubby trees and begin returning the fire of the enemy snipers who are making it quite hot for our patrols by now.

Meanwhile the first equipment, machine-gun equipped jeeps, are being brought ashore, closely followed by bulldozers and the big heavily loaded ten-wheel convoy trucks. A yell from the lookouts brings everyone alert! Out of the sky come enemy dive bombers and fighters to bomb and strafe us! After the first swift attack, they bank sharply and turn in from the sea for another run. But this time they are met by a deadly hail of rifle and machine gun fire from the Seabees who had "hit the deck" on the hot sand and from others who had hastily assembled machine guns on the beach. The 20 mm. "ack-ack" guns on the barge join in and roar out their answer to the attackers. After a short but desperate fight, the enemy is driven off and the landing operations resumed the situation now "well in hand."

A quick reconnaissance of the area shows that it has been deserted and the only sign of the enemy is the occasional bursts of firing by our now distant patrols. A camp site is selected and it isn't long before the cooks are standing over hot field ranges and tantalizing the hungry Seabees with the wonderful odor of frying steak. Meanwhile tents are being pitched for the dispensary, armory, tool-crib, officers' quarters and field headquarters and the men are all pairing off and selecting sites for their puptents. All the tents are scattered throughout the woods so as to shield them from the hot sun and the enemy bombers if they should return.

The patrols are now beginning to return, victorious, from their mission of clearing the enemy from the island. They are just in time, too, for the chow line is already forming. Everyone eats from his mess kit and the most popular method seems to be while sitting on the ground, cross-legged Indian fashion. Just as it begins to get dark the last of the stragglers finish chow and wash mess kits in the drum of hot water, and every one not on duty heads for the tents and the beloved "sack."

continued on page 114

Cat Island

COMPANY D · PLATOON 1

This platoon was organized in Gulfport, as headquarters platoon for the Company and was the advance scout patrol for battle formation. The platoon consisted of four machine gunners and two leaders. On construction projects, these men experienced everything from a construction point of view, working as electricians, carpenters, machine operators, metalsmiths, and machinists.

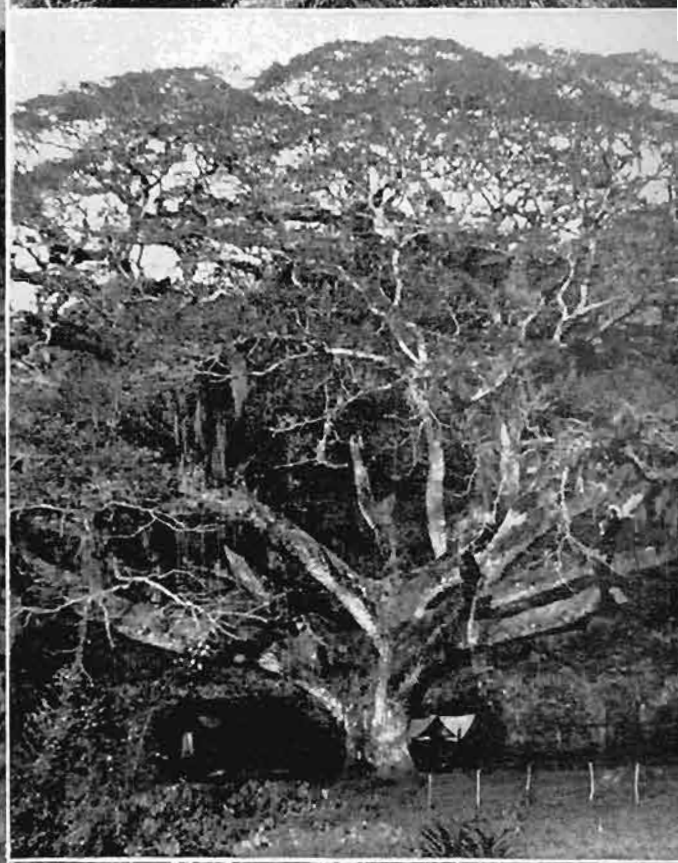
This being a small platoon, rerates were not too plentiful. One Chief Petty Officer, Lee R. Griffin, was promoted to Warrant from this platoon and Leon M. Oliver, CCM, was given a permanent appointment. This was the third enlistment for Chief Oliver in the Navy. T. G. Wignall was promoted from CM1c to CCM, and R. E. Dedrick received two promotions for his outstanding ability as a machine operator. He came into the service as a S1c and was elevated to the rank of MM2c.

The military formation of the Company was headed by Lieutenant E. M. Henderson as commanding officer with Lieutenant M. R. Cowper, executive officer. Both officers operating with the headquarters platoon in battle array.

To Lieutenant E. M. Henderson goes credit for excellent leadership of Company "D" in its many activities. The work included camp construction, foundation and concrete work in connection with the hangar, grading, paving and draining work.

Lieut. (jg) J. R. Joiner supervised the foundation construction for the hangar, and in spite of most unfavorable weather conditions, the work proceeded with exceptional rapidity.

Blue Basin



COMPANY D · PLATOON 2

Known as the Weapon platoon for the company, consisting of machine gun and trench mortar crews in two sections. Each section was in charge of a Chief Petty Officer, and one Chief Petty Officer as platoon leader. The mortar section was in charge of Chief A. M. Stinson and Chief J. C. Gatlin was in command of the heavy machine gun section. Each section was well balanced with gunners, assistant gunners, scouts, messengers and signalmen. On construction projects this platoon was well represented in carpentry, rigging, machine operations, refrigeration, demolition, and in the security guards.

There were eleven rerates from this platoon including two Chief Petty Officers. E. W. Gray, EM1c to CEM; Arnold Clark, S2c to S1c; R. L. Gibson, S2c to S1c; Jerry Goode, S2c to S1c; R. C. Gordon, S2c to S1c; J. F. Lockney, S2c to S1c; William McGruder, S2c to S1c; Sandy F. Smith, SF3c to MM2c; R. B. Smith, S2c to S1c, and Owen E. Sadler, EM1c to CEM.

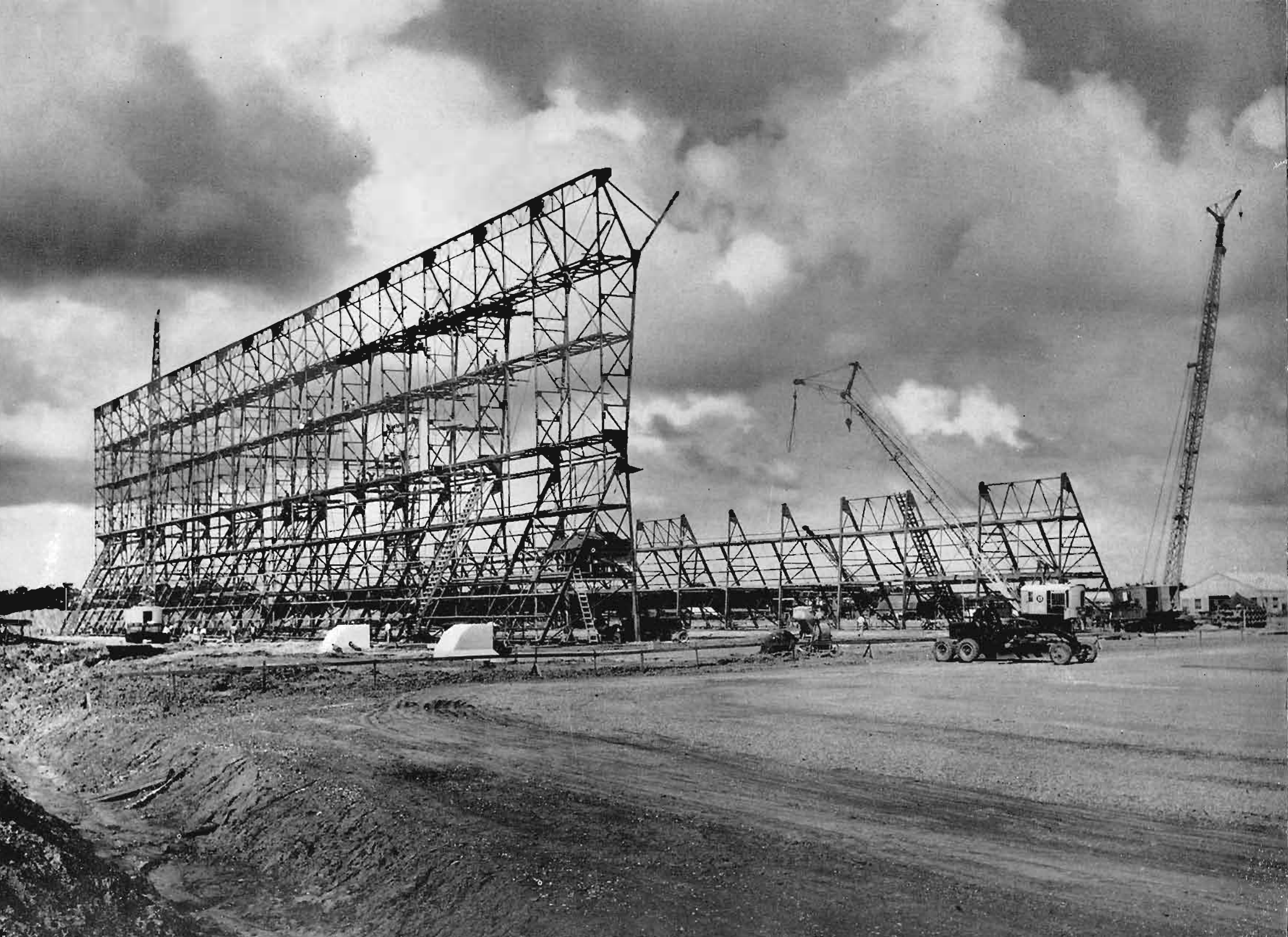
In charge of the weapons platoon was Carpenter C. D. Collor.

SEABEE MARCHING SONG

We work like hell, we fight like hell,
And always come back for more—
The Navy's advance base engineers
On many a foreign shore!
On half the lousy islands
From here to Timbuctoo,
You'll find a hive of Seabees
A hell of a fighting crew!

Oh, when we land on Island X,
We mean we're here to stay,
Mud, wind or rain or bombs or fog,
We build the Navy way.
And we just hope the axis
Will try to take it away—
For that's the chance we're waiting for—
To make those gangsters pay!

The Admiral dropped around
To chat the other night.
He said "Now, Boys, I know you work
But you've been trained to fight.
So if there's any trouble
Don't stop to put on your jeans
Just drop your tools, pick up your guns
And protect those poor Marines!"



COMPANY D · PLATOON 3

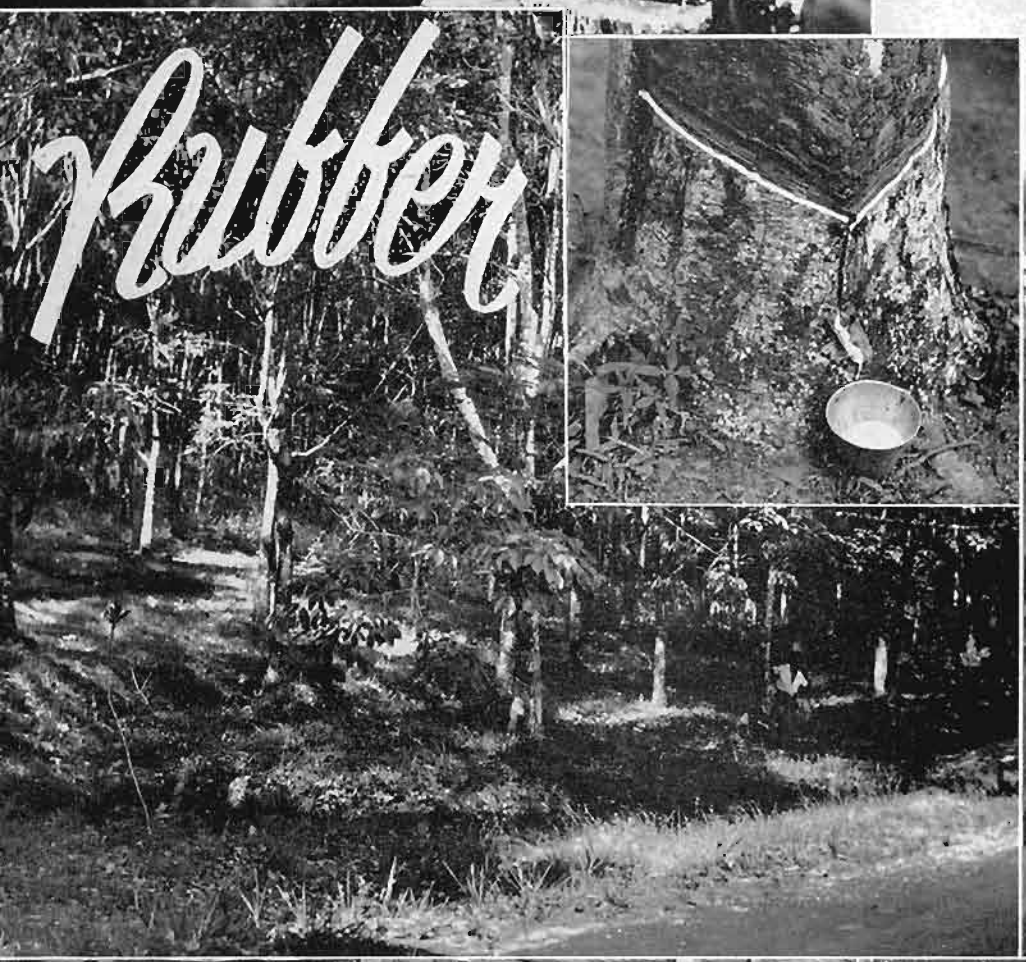
This platoon was organized as one of the four rifle platoons of the company and was under the leadership of CCM Lester H. Lawson. The platoon consisted of three squads of men including the squad leader, messenger, sub-machine gunners, riflemen and assistant squad leader for each squad. On the various Battalion projects, the men of this platoon could be found employed on various details as riggers, carpenters, iron workers, painters, mechanics, plumbers, crane operators, bulldozer operators, mess attendants, shore patrol and security guards.

There were nineteen rerates granted in this platoon including two men who were rerated twice for outstanding service. They were Aubrey B. Jasper from S1c to MM2c, and Joe L. Wilson from S2c to SF3c. There were two Chief Petty Officers rerated in the platoon; Lester H. Lawson, CM1c to CCM, and O. H. Femrite, CM1c to CBM. Others include: A. J. Ball, S1c to MM3c; Monie Baylor, SF3c to SF2c; Hayward Daniels, Ptr 3c to Ptrc 2c; Ulysses Johnson, MM3c to MM2c; Claudie E. Johnson, S2c to S1c; Hural Johnson, CM3c to CM2c; Albert Turley, S2c to S1c; Darnell King, S2c to S1c; James E. Walker, S1c to CM3c; Elmer Wilson, Sf3c to CM2c; George H. Wilson, S2c to S1c; Sylvester Winfield, S2c to S1c; George Young, S1c to Cox.

★ ★ ★

"What, no mail? I was supposed to get a letter today." "Six cents more? Why, I only wrote ten pages, not counting the 'Beez Buzz'." "Did I get a package? No! I received a letter today and they told me they were mailing the package at the same time. Should be here by now. Are you sure? Look again."

So it goes from day to day. When the mail comes in "Heavy," everyone smiles; when it doesn't, put on your best coat of armor, brace yourself, for here come the brick-bats.



RUBBER PLANTATIONS

One of the few rubber plantations on the island. Here rubber is collected and cured in preparation for shipment to the States.

COMPANY D · PLATOON 4

This platoon, under the leadership of CSF M. R. Stephenson was a rifle platoon for battle formation and was represented on the construction program in various work which included plumbing, pipe laying, crane operators, truck drivers, bulldozer operators, riggers, welders, painters, carpenters, security guards, mess attendants and camp maintenance men. This platoon can rightfully be proud of the fact that it has the oldest man in the Battalion on the rolls; a man who has served in wars unheard of by some of the other members of the Battalion.

There were fourteen rerates granted from this platoon to date. They are: Ulysses Barrows, S2c to S1c; Naughton Beavers, S1c to SF3c; Floyd Bell, S1c to SF3c; James T. Brown, S1c to CM3c; James W. Broussard, S1c to MM3c; James Glover, Cox to MM2c; Guy J. Graves, S2c to S1c; Dorris W. Johnson, S2c to S1c; George Qualls, EM2c to CM1c; Ralph T. Sterling, S2c to S1c; Charles Sutton, S2c to S1c; Carter P. Temple, S2c to S1c; Clifton Thomas, S2c to S1c; Ralph Wright, S2c to S1c.

GETTYSBURG ADDRESS PARODY

Two score and seven days ago our battalion brought forth upon this island a new project, conceived in a foxhole and dedicated to the proposition that all Japs are created evil.

We are now ensnared in the heat, rain, and mud of the island, testing whether this project or the Seabees will long endure.

We are all together slipping and sliding as we do this, but in a larger sense we cannot cultivate, we cannot navigate, we cannot harrow this ground, for those great rains which make this mud here have made it impossible, far above the poor power of all but the "cats" (tractors).

It is for us, the Seabees, rather to be enslaved here by this menial labor, which they who are in charge have thus so freely advanced. It is rather for us to be here sickened by the dish of hash set before us, that from these cans we took our nourishment; nor no devotion to those cooks, for our stomachs gave an everlasting measure of commotion.

The world will little note nor long remember what we build here, but we shall never forget the hash and beans we ate here. Let us resolve that we shall not have sweat in vain; that this battalion shall have 30 days of freedom in the United States by Easter; that this thought shall not perish from our hopes.

COMPANY D · STRAGGLERS

Front Row, Left to Right:

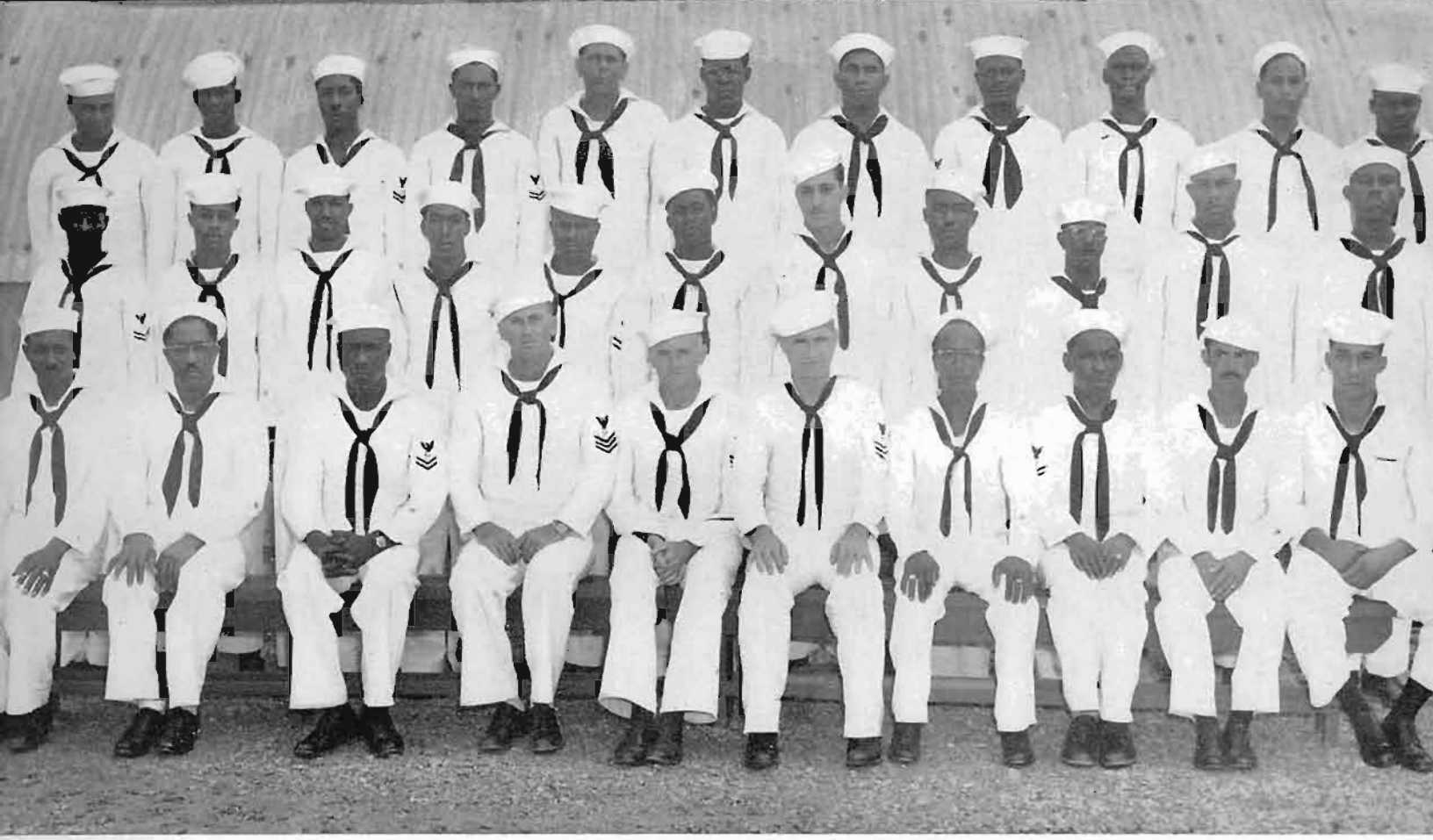
Joe Robinson, CM1c, Cameron, Texas.
Coy L. Rushing, SF1c, Houston, Texas.
Edmond W. Gray, CEM, Arlington, W. Va.
Mose R. Stephenson, CSF, Shreveport, La.
"J" "C" Gatlin, CBM, Houston, Texas.
Glenn Q. Milner, CSF, Lubbock, Texas.
Thomas G. Wignall, CCM, Graham, Texas.
Bascom B. Bell, MM1c, Fort Worth, Texas.
Ferrin C. Smith, SF1c, Florence, Ala.
Mac Martin, MM1c, Houston, Texas.

Second Row:

Arthur J. Ball, MM3c, Springfield, Ohio.
Millard L. Williams, SF2c, Fort Worth, Texas.
R. B. Smith, S1c, Houston, Texas.
Ross Chamberlain, EM3c, Tulsa, Okla.
Joseph C. Stewart, S2c, New Rochelle, N. Y.
Claude E. Johnson, S1c, Richmond, Va.
James W. Broussard, MM3c, Houston, Texas.

Third Row:

Joseph Perry, MM2c, Memphis, Tenn.
Leo Carter, MM2c, Galveston, Texas.
Arlow L. Phillips, S2c, Gillium, W. Va.
Charles F. Young, S2c, Vivian, W. Va.
William C. Turner, WT2c, Adamstown, Md.
Charles H. Hunt, S1c, Akron, Ohio.



COMPANY D · PLATOON 5

This is the third rifle platoon of Company "D" and the formation is the same as the others but under the leadership of CMM Willie P. Colvin. This platoon was assigned to numerous details of construction and was made up largely of the concrete, paving and road building men. Others were assigned to carpentry, security guard, mess detail, and truck driving. There were sixteen rerates granted in the platoon including one Chief Petty Officer, J. L. Abercrombie, EM1c to CEM. George R. Daly, S2c to S1c; Willie Dale, S2c to S1c; Arkansas George Davis, S2c to S1c; Edward Daniels, S2c to S1c; Otis C. Hardy, CM3c to CM2c; Manning Hinton, S1c to Cox; Charles H. Hunt, S2c to S1c; Wesley R. Knight, CM3c to CM2c; Vernon D. Mason, F1c to MM3c; John F. Moaning, CM3c to CM2c; Decoursey Morgan, S2c to S1c; James O. Turner, CM3c to CM2c; Homer D. Wartel, CM3c to CM2c; Hilton (Chicken) Phillips, CM3c to CM2c. "Old Man Mose" McCutcheon was the only man in the platoon to get rerated twice. He came in the service as a S2c and has been rerated to MM3c.

All rifle platoons were in command of Ens. J. R. Joiner who was promoted at a later date to Lt. (jg). He deserves a lot of credit for the performance of the four rifle platoons during military training and maneuvers. Comdr. Eckberg at A.B.D. particularly commented on Co. "D's" work in this department.

IN THE NAVY

You make with a swab
And not with a mop,
Topside, not upstairs
To get to the top.
You stand on the deck,
Though it's green with grass,
And it's chow, not food,
You get with your pass.
Boat is to ship
As hill is to mountain;
And you drink from a scuttlebutt.
And not from a fountain.
The gentlemen's lounge
Is known as the head.
You sleep in your sack
And not in your bed.
You stow your gear,
Not "put things away"
And say "Squared away"
Instead of "O.K."
It's port and it's starboard
Not left and right.
A rope is a line
And a loop is a bight.
You square your hat
When you make it round.
You hit the deck
At the bugle's sound.
But our favorite phrase
That phrase of dreams
Comes payday, then
THE EAGLE SCREAMS.

—The Mainsheet
U. S. Naval Training Station
Bainbridge, Md.

COMPANY D · STRAGGLERS

Front Row, Left to Right:

George Qualls, EM1c, 1524 Linton St., Newborn, Tenn.
Howard Macon, SF2c, New Orleans, La.
Orville H. Femrite, CBM, 457 Bryant St., San Francisco, Calif.
Robert D. Marshall, MM1c, Alvarado, Texas.
Ulysses Barrows, S1c, 3523 Ming St., Dallas, Texas.
Walter Thomas, S1c, Little Rock, Ark.

Back Row, Left to Right:

Andrew B. Dooley, CM2c, 504 Hannoway St., Columbia, Tenn.
Dimple Shaw, BM2c, Galveston, Texas.
Fred Swan, Jr., S1c, Horsehead, N. Y.
Roderick E. Dedrick, MM2c, Owens, W. Va.
Homer D. Wartel, CM2c, Houston, Texas.

★ ★ ★

Chief: "Sir, I've been trying to see you for a week, but you were busy. When can I see you?"

Admiral: "Why don't you make a date with my secretary?"
Chief: "I did, sir. We had a lovely time, but still I want to see you."

★ ★ ★

A WAC came in all messed up. Her Commanding Officer said: "Where have you been?"
WAC: "In a wolfhold."
C. O.: "You must mean a fox-hole."
WAC: "I don't know who dug it, but there was a wolf in it."

★ ★ ★

Chief Electrician's Mate: "Hey, put your hand on one of these wires. Feel anything?"
Striker: "No, sir."
Chief: "Good, I wasn't sure which was which. Don't touch the other one or you'll drop dead."

COMPANY D · PLATOON 6

This is the fourth and last rifle platoon. The formation is identical with the other rifle platoons and is under the leadership of CSF Glenn Q. Milner, one of the many Texans in the Battalion. He is now serving in the capacity of Adjutant for the company. This platoon boasts of several outstanding men who deserve much credit for their good work and conduct. The squad leaders in this platoon have shown themselves to be outstanding as leaders in battle formation and as class "A" mechanics on construction work. This platoon like the rest has been assigned to numerous details and is made up largely of road builders and concrete men with other details well represented. There have been twenty-one rerates granted in the platoon with a total of five men being given rerates twice for outstanding conduct and ability on work details, M. E. James Fuller is assigned to the boiler details and came in the service as a F2c and is now rated as WT2c, also William C. Turner came in as F2c and is now WT2c, Frank Seals came in as S1c and is now BM2c, Johnnie Green came in as S2c and has done an excellent job as concrete finisher. Other rerates were, Oneil O. Davis, S2c to S1c; Booker T. Green, S2c to S1c; James D. McCoy, S2c to S1c; Linton C. Greene, S2c to S1c; Samuel M. Murphy, SF2c to SF2c; Willia M. Ransom, S2c to S1c; Norman Reed, Ptr3c to Ptr2c; Thomas F. Slade, S2c to S1c; J. H. Strickland, S1c to CM3c. Besides the rerates mentioned above Glenn Q. Milner was granted permanent appointment as a CSF.

Staüble's Beach Tent City: Our first home on Island "X".

The 2229 Draft

(Chief Easley wrote this article shortly before he volunteered for CBMU duty. The rest of his gang were transferred to another outfit. Stay with 'em, lads! We'll always count on you as shipmates!—Ed.)

"Casual Draft 2229" is composed of seventy-five men representing 24 states of the Union with predominating majorities from Ohio, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania. Each "29'er" is a steel and iron worker with many years' experience, although his "average age" is only 31 years. Some trades represented are structural steel workers, crane and hoist operators, shovel and dragline operators, boiler makers, riggers, riveters, chippers and caulkers as well as men skilled in reinforcing steel, heat treating, pipe-fitting, sheet metal work and drafting and blue-prints.

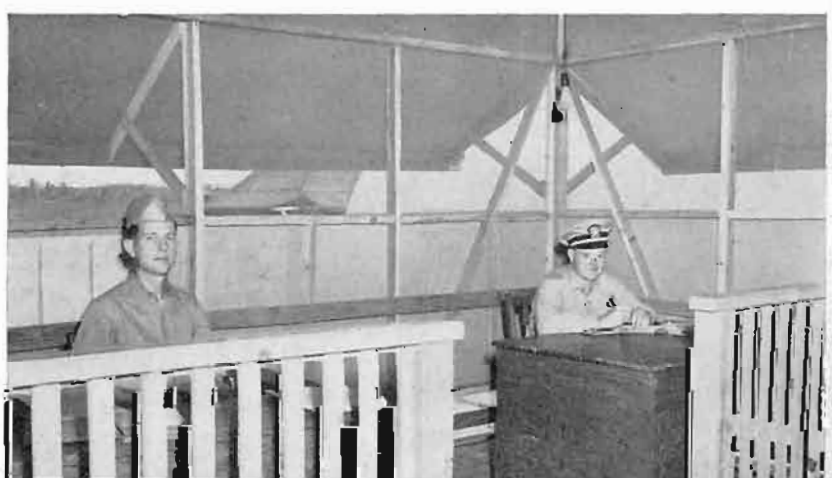
The "New Draft," as it is familiarly called in the 80th, was formed at Camp Peary, Va., in January 1944. It was then transported to Norfolk, Va., where the lads immediately boarded ship for their unknown destination of "Island X."

After a quick but rough crossing—during which several erstwhile "old salts" thought they were going to die—and then were afraid they wouldn't—the ship docked at Trinidad.

Then the prime piece of scuttlebutt came along: "It is all a mistake. The draft isn't getting off at Trinidad—gonna be turned around and be sent back to the States!" However, this proved to have no foundation—the draft was unloaded and sat on the dock waiting transportation to the 80th camp. This move was made at last and the new draft arrived around midnight, causing the Skipper and the Exec., who had been assured NOB would house the lads overnight, to do quite a little scurrying to find food and quarters for the strangers. The chow was welcome—but the sack more so!

But now we consider ourselves "part of the outfit"—we'll be "in there pitchin'" all the time—we'll be "BEES ON THE BALL."

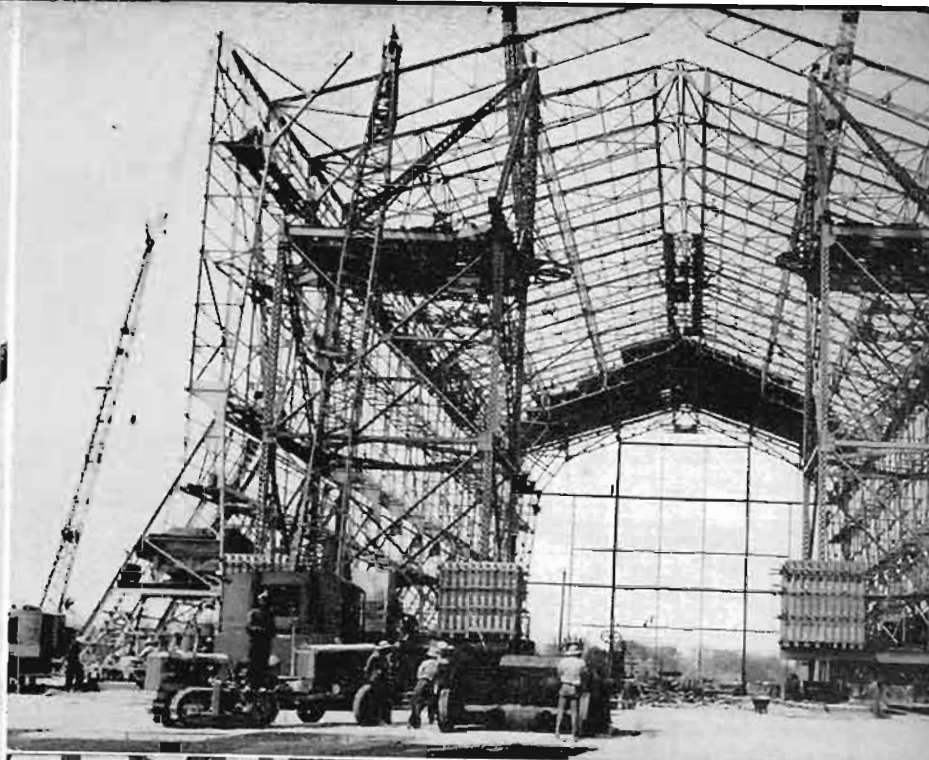
Seated L. to R.: Albert G. Mulley, SF2c; Thomas E. Moorey, Jr., SF2c; William G. Wolf, SF2c; Eric J. Cormier, SF1c; Jim B. Adams, CSF; Glenn H. Allen, SF1c; Russell G. Scarbrough, SF2c; George Lecik, SF1c; Howard E. Wadhams, SF1c. Standing L. to R.: Steve J. Lupinski, SF1c; Ernest Price, SF2c; John C. Miday, SF2c; Gerald L. Townley, SF2c; Leo F. Kerr, SF2c; Gerard L. Nadeau, SF2c; John R. Daley, SF1c; Clarence E. Fernow, SF2c; Archie O. Palisoul, SF2c; Roger A. Goff, SF2c; William C. Thornton, SF2c; Francis A. Trudell, SF2c; Eugene A. Tate, SF2c; Vincent V. Rebinskas, SF2c; Clark J. Ruckle, SF2c; James F. White, SF2c; William Kurry, SF2c. Not Present: Arthur H. Munnelly, CSF.

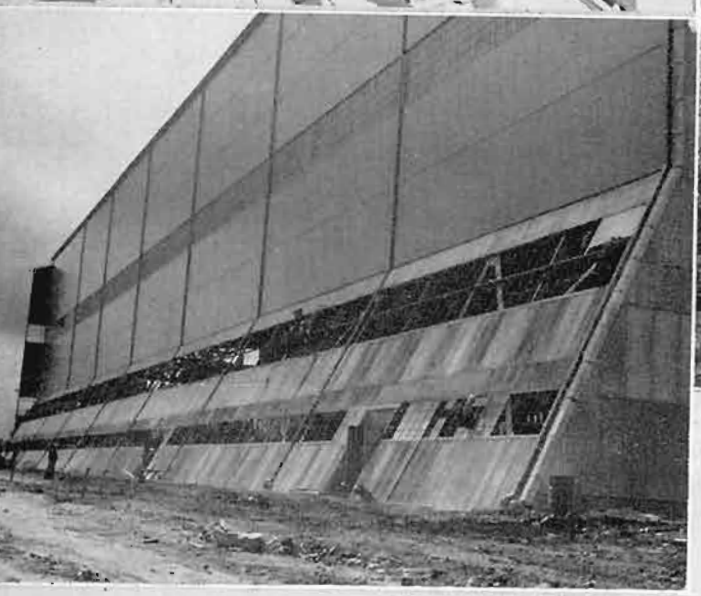


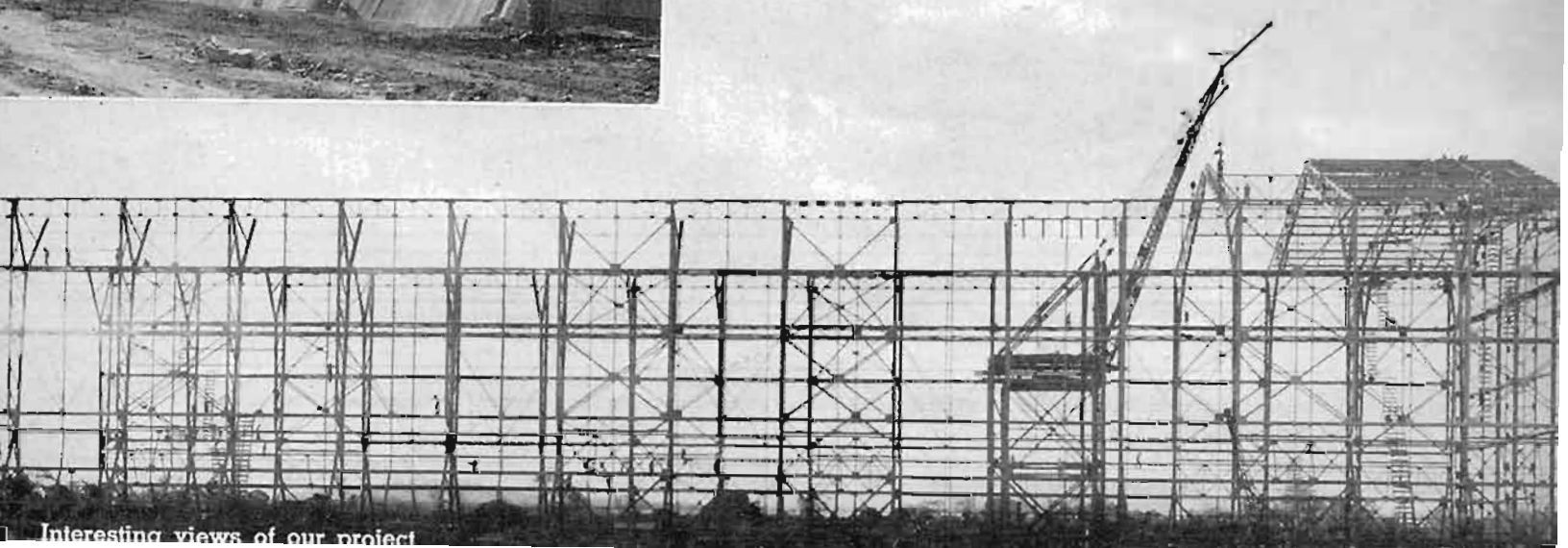
The Skipper and Exec. (in silhouette) watch the first blimp to be berthed in the completed hangar

SEATED, L. to R.: Arthur C. McPhail, CSF; Archie O. Palisoul, SF2c; G. Earl Gatling, SF2c; Floyd N. Butler, SF2c; Paul E. Brand, SF2c; Charles R. Storm, SF2c; C. E. Huttemann, Jr., SF1c; John E. Gilroy, SF2c; John W. Easley, Jr., CSF. STANDING, L. to R.: Carl H. Scott, SF2c; Julian P. Jordan, SF1c; Paul B. Skeens, SF2c; Emil T. Christensen, SF2c; W. H. Jameson, Jr., SF1c; Robert E. McCune, Jr., SF2c; John G. Williams, SF2c; Roy C. Roblee, SF2c; Clifford W. Linscott, SF1c; Glenn W. McIntyre, SF1c; Frank E. Schroeder, SF2c; Leroy E. Ostrander, SF1c; Gilbert L. Ferrelli, SF1c; Earle N. Hardy, SF2c; Edward W. Groh, SF1c; Howard E. Wadhams, SF1c; George E. Gallinger, SF1c; Russell E. Hansen, SF1c; John T. Tierney, SF1c.

SEATED, L. to R.: G. L. Deffenbaugh, SF1c; George P. Marks, SF2c; John M. Joyce, CSF; Clarence H. Horst, CSF; Lester L. Bowes, SF2c; Norman L. Liles, SF1c. STANDING, L. to R.: Elmer C. Behrends, SF1c; Charles E. Cotter, SF2c; Robert Bell, SF1c; Mosie R. Oakes, SF2c; Alvin E. Deck, Sr., SF2c; Durl W. Luzier, SF1c; Maxwell B. Zwibel, SF2c; Clinton L. Stillwell, SF1c; John P. Talbot, SF2c; Harvey A. Taylor, SF2c; William Chieco, SF2c; George A. Parker, SF2c; John J. Kerrigan, SF2c; Ervin D. Hann, SF2c; Maurice E. Dennis, Jr., FS1c. Not Present: Joseph Forte, Jr., SF2c.



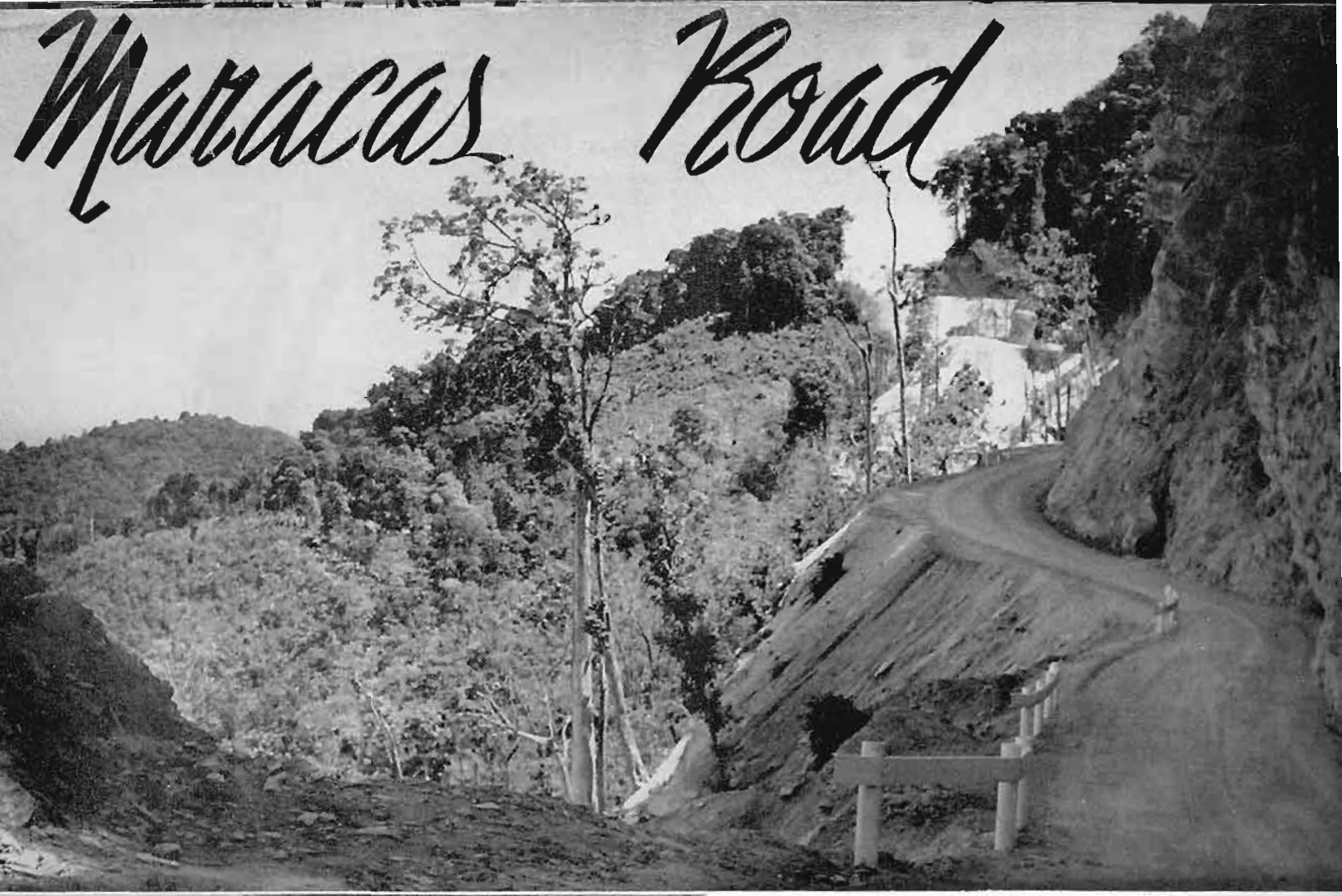




Interesting views of our project

stoetenq

Maracas Road



THE SEABEE

The Seabee lives a life of ease,
He neither toils nor spins;
He saunters round at double time
In mud up to his shins.

The Seabee spends his morn in sleep,
Nor wakes 'till five has sped;
A Chief, with heart of purest gold,
Brings breakfast to his bed.

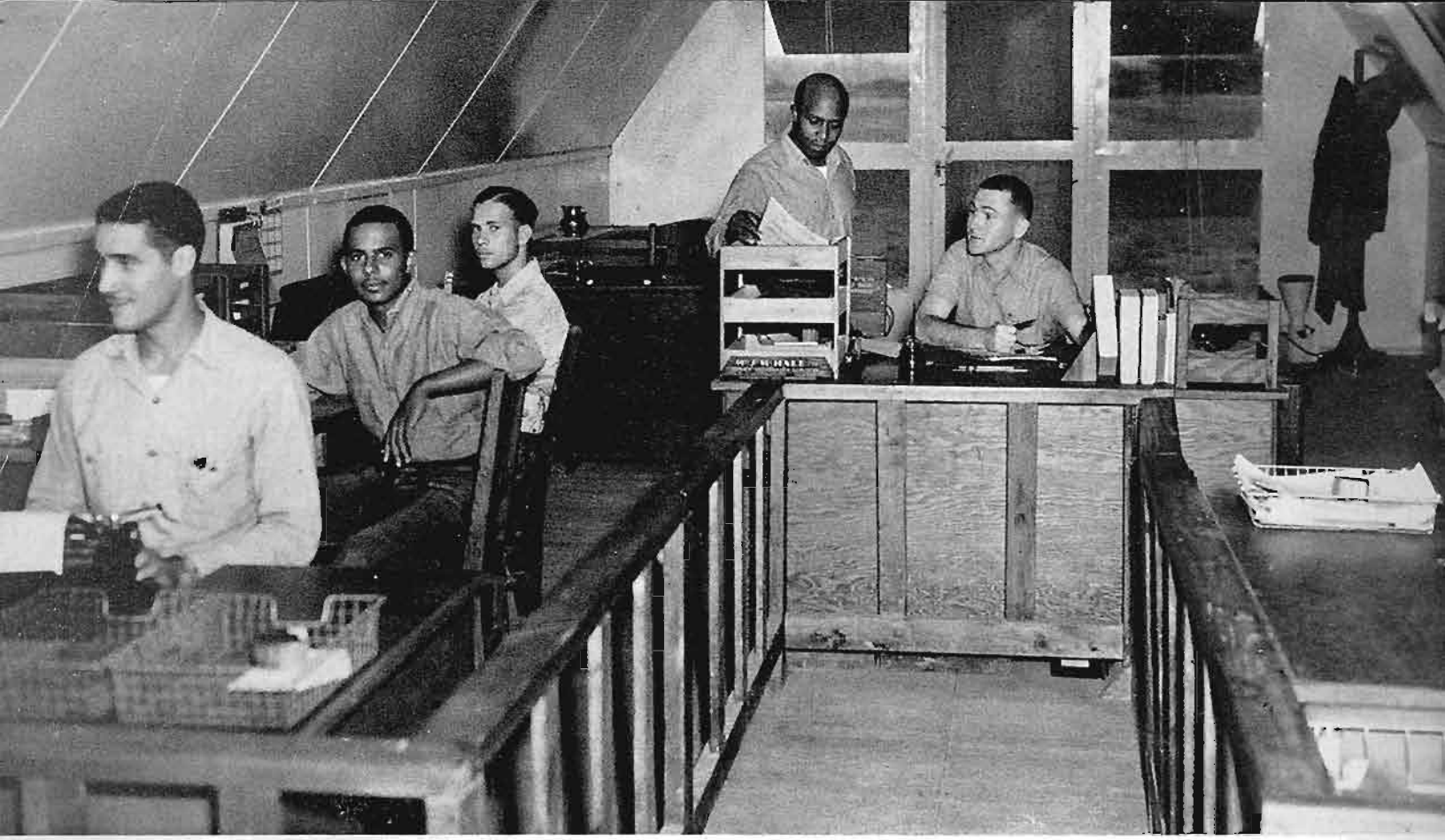
Beans and bacon, and beans and eggs,
And beans, and beans as well;
The Seabee's soul's as white as snow,
His coffee's black as hell.

On Sunday, holy day of rest,
The Seabee scrubs his shirts;
But though his hands are in the suds,
His mind is on the skirts.

And when the Seabee goes ashore
The girls all raise a cheer;
They fill his heart with joy untold,
His belly fill with beer.

A pain, a strain, a broken leg,
No matter what the ill,
Your throat is sprayed with argyrol,
And then you take a pill.

When I get back to my home town,
No matter where or when,
I'll kill the guy who signed me up
And join all over again.



EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Here is where all the executive work for the 80th Battalion is carried on.

Commander Cantey, our Skipper, is constantly on the job issuing orders to Bill Amory, Bob Nickson, his running mate (both Yeo's 2/c), pioneers of the (C. O. Office) and the "Mercury Men," Johnnie Speed and Charlie Wharton.

Chief McHale, who is constantly being button-holed by someone asking about a special liberty or he is over-checking with MAA Cooper about some mast investigation. Also, he keeps a record of the Skipper's various appointments.

These men have very little time to themselves during the day as there are a thousand and one details that have to be taken care of and they deserve a lot of credit as they are doing an excellent job.

★ ★ ★

"Do you believe in clubs for women?"

"Yes, if kindness fails."

Several recruits went into Ship's Service. The only attendant was sitting comfortably behind the counter. The boots waited. Nobody came to wait on them. "Can't you wait on us?" one finally managed to ask meekly.

"Can't you come in sometime when I'm standing up?"

★ ★ ★

Home is a place where a fellow sits around and wishes he could be somewhere else until he gets somewhere else and wishes he could sit around home again.

★ ★ ★

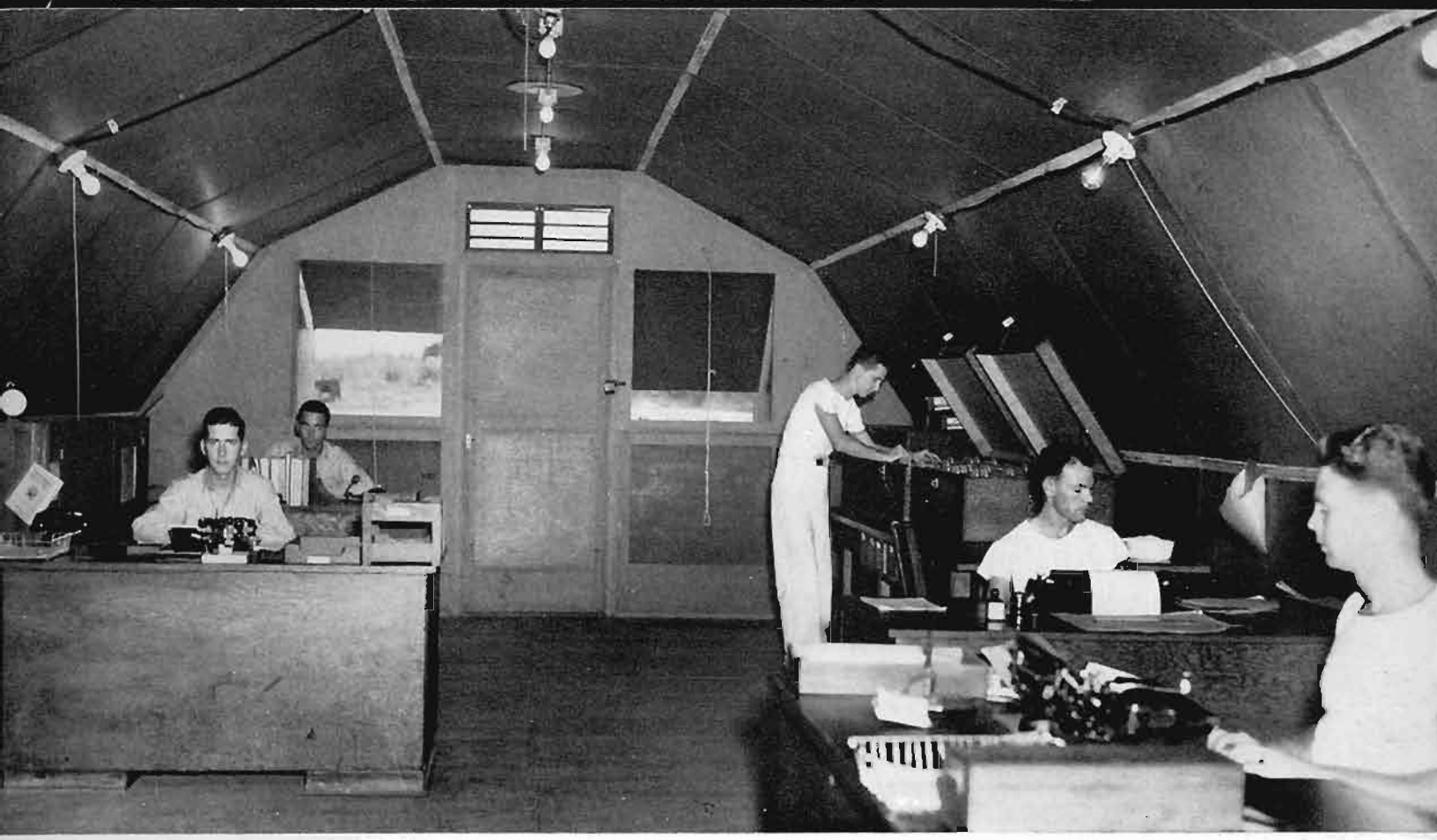
"Darling, I guess you are pretty mad at me for coming home with this black eye last night."

"Not at all, sweetheart, you didn't have it when you came home."

★ ★ ★

"Why is a kiss like the three graces?"

"It's faith to a girl; hope to a young woman and charity to an old maid."



PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT

January 26, 1943, was the date of the official opening of the Personnel Office, and was one of the first offices to open for business in the history of the Battalion. The members of the Personnel Office consist of one officer and four enlisted men, namely Lt. (jg) Frank D. Leigh, Personnel Officer; Willard W. Lester, Chief Yeoman; Royce E. Wardrep, Yeoman 1st Class; Marshall W. Frazier, Yeoman 1st Class, and Edward O. Clark, Yeoman 1st Class.

The objective of the Personnel Department is to assist the men in any official or personal way possible; to keep complete and up to date records of all men, and maintain an organization that operates efficiently and effectively.

The most important work of the Personnel Department is to compile and maintain the records of the men of the Battalion. The work entails the upkeep of Service Records, writing of applications and follow up letters on MAQ, Family Allowance, National Service Life Insurance and Longevity Pay, completing and maintaining files relative to experience, quarterly and semi-quarterly marks, change card entries and records involving rerating, the transfer and receiving of Battalion Personnel, checking Muster Reports and findings of Court Martials. In addition to work above outlined the department also maintains files relative to Discharges and Extra Pay Details, and prepares other reports too numerous to mention that are prepared and forwarded to the Bureau of Naval Personnel, Washington, D. C., monthly and quarterly.

The Personnel Office handles emergency and regular leaves as well as records regarding sailings to and from the continental United States.

We wish to thank the personnel of the various departments and the Battalion for their splendid cooperation during our fourteen months together.

Willard M. Lester, CY.

DISBURSING · HARVARD STYLE

Ensign J. Forsythe Alexander, SC-V(G), USN, of Haverford, Pennsylvania, the first officer to report to active duty with the 80th U. S. Naval Construction Battalion on the 21st of December, 1942, began in the early days of January, 1943, the tough job of setting up the Disbursing Office according to the latest practices, principles and theories outlined to him at the Harvard School of Business Administration and at the Navy Supply Corps School, Soldier's Field, Boston, Mass. Prior to forming his own disbursing crew, Mr. Alexander scanned the company muster lists of new recruited "boots," selected storekeepers and men with accounting experience (information was obtained from service jackets) and called them for interviews. Following the interview the following men were selected: Holloway of Dallas, Texas, SK1c; Kenny of New Orleans, La., SK1c; Johnstone of Bartlesville, Okla., CSK (AA); Lyons of Bethany, Okla., SK1c; Jackson of Jacksonville, Fla., SK2; Laster of Philadelphia, Pa., SK3c; Browne of Washington, D. C., SK3c; Porter of Burlington, N. J., S1c; Coiner of Beckley, W. Va., later transferred to the Eightieth as SK2c from S2c at Ship's Company, Camp Allen; and Latta of Tulsa, Okla., rated in error as SC1c which was soon corrected to SK1c.

The removal of the Battalion from Camp Allen to Camp Bradford, occasioned the split between the Disbursing Office and the Supply Office. Ensign Huntsberry moved into the Supply Office taking with him his initial office force consisting of Latta, Lyons, Laster and later Jackson. Latta's abilities soon earned him a rerate to CSK(AA). The driving force behind all of the storekeepers in this work was Chief John Johnson, who caught on to the principles of disbursing faster than most of the men. In the latter part of November, 1943, Johnson was ordered to the United States for commissioning as Lieutenant (jg) in the Supply Corps of the U. S. Naval Reserve.

Heading up the force as office manager is Wylie "R" Holloway, now Chief Storekeeper since Johnstone's detachment. Sitting next to the chief is Eugene E. Kenny, SK1c, the keeper of book No. 1, which contains pay accounts whose numbers run from 1 through 349. Back in one corner of the office, behind a typewriter, the allotment card file box, and a diminutive calculator, sits Jack R. Coiner, SK1c, the keeper of book No. 3. On the other side of the front office, behind a filing cabinet, sits Oden W. Browne, Jr., SK2c, the general typist for the office. Browne types all allotment cards and the transmittals of FA and NSI.

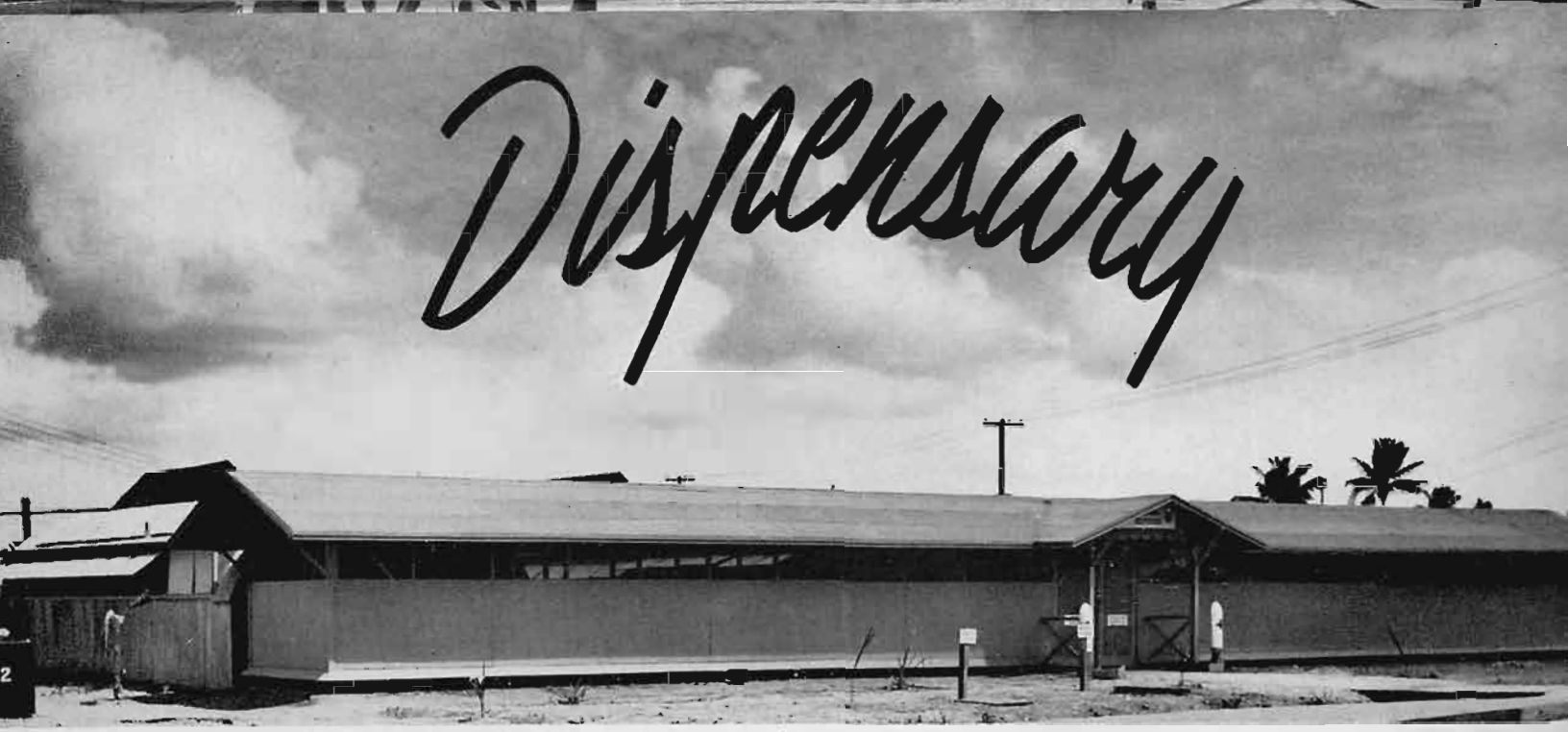
Sitting next to Browne and keeping his 18-inch L. C. Smith in almost continuous operation is Frederick "Smooth Roll" Porter, SK2c, the keeper of book No. 4, containing accounts numbered 1300 through 1575. Porter stops working on the Smooth Roll to figure pay in his book, or to estimate officers' pay accounts for their pay days.

SUPPLY

When Ens. Charles W. Huntsberry, SC, USNR, of Winchester, Va., came to the 80th Battalion at Camp Bradford as Supply Officer, he was faced with the problem of securing storekeepers. The Disbursing Office, having organized at Camp Allen, "stripped" the Battalion of all storekeepers in order to start the ball rolling in that department.

After many interviews and searching through service jackets, Ens. Huntsberry pointed his finger at Carl E. Latta, SK1c, of Tulsa, Okla. Between Ens. Huntsberry and Latta the selecting of men for the department was accomplished. W. F. Lyons, SK1c, of Oklahoma City, Okla., was placed in charge of the Battalion's Gear Locker with P. M. Nero, F2c, of Washington, D. C., as assistant. Oscar Conners, SK3c, of Cincinnati, Ohio, and J. S. Laster, SK3c, of Willow Grove, Penn., were assigned to Provisions. C. E. L. M. Sargent, S1c, of Miami, Fla., and W. E. Woods, S1c, of Houston, Texas, were assigned to the office. The adjustment period of the men took only a little time although Ens. Huntsberry and Latta were the only men who had knowledge of the duties of a Navy Storekeeper.

Camp Hollyday in Gulfport, Miss., was the proving ground for the Supply Department. The department was reorganized and new assignments were given with further study of the duties of the department. Lyons, Nero, Woods, and C. L. Jackson, SK2c, of Jacksonville, Fla., were sent to the Base Tool Room to study the methods used there. Laster and Conners, assisted by Woods and Nero, took the job in the Issue Room. While the Battalion was on leave, Latta and Sargent remained behind, spending long hours in preparing Title X forms on field and infantry equipment for the men to sign on their return. Provision Records and Provision Stock Ledgers were set up. Stock Tally and Inventory Cards were put in order. Invoices were checked and filed for the material we received at the last moment at Camp Bradford. The Navy Stock Catalog was put in order. We welcomed the leave that was given us at the end of the nine days. When Latta returned from his leave he was wearing the uniform of a Chief. By this rerate he became even a more driving factor in the office.

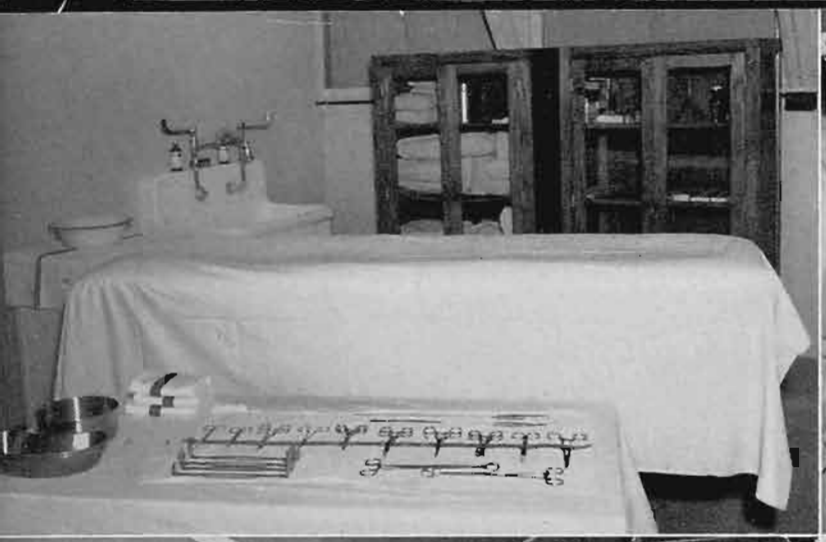


SAGA OF THE SICK BAY

On a cold day in early January, 1943, a long line of men in civilian clothes stretched along the road leading to the Dispensary at Camp Allen, Norfolk, Va. As the men moved into the building, the rate at which the line moved set the tempo at which the U. S. Navy was forming another Construction Battalion—the Eightieth. Assembly line methods of a country engaged in total war were used, and the men learned that their first contact with the Navy Medical Department was thorough though hasty.

The Eightieth Battalion Medical Department had its humble beginning in a small room in the detention unit of Building 38. Here, men suffering from "cat fever," always present in Norfolk in the winter, and sore feet, ever present in boot camps, were treated as well as limited facilities would permit. The nightmare of "shots" occurred regularly each week for four weeks to make the men immune to small-pox, typhoid fever, tetanus and yellow fever. Most of the actual treatment was carried out by the main Dispensary of Camp Allen, as the Battalion had not yet been actually formed, and its medical staff shared in the general confusion.

On January the 25th, the Battalion entered Unit "F" at Camp Bradford, Virginia, and the medical department expanded to include two quonset huts. The dental officer, Dr. Tanner, was now in a position to begin checking the descriptive lists as prescribed by the Navy Regulations. Cases considered at all serious, continued to be treated at Camp Allen or one of the Naval Hospitals near Norfolk. Late in February, PhM1c (later CPhM) George Koval joined the battalion with eight years' experience in the Naval Hospital Corps. When Pharmacist's Mate D. R. Coker (our records custodian at Camp Allen) informed us that he had a health record for every man aboard, we felt that our department was ready to move to the ABD. At Gulfport, Miss., we were installed in a spacious room in the Administration Building of our unit. The change in climate was a welcome relief, and "cat fever," sore throats and other ailments began to wane. Hikes to the rifle range developed many blisters, fallen arches, sprained ankles and sore backs. The splendid staff and up-to-date facilities of the Naval Dispensary on the base were of welcome assistance in treating cases that needed more attention or treatment than the facilities at our Sick Bay provided. The Battalion's



medical defects were rectified and its defects in marksmanship were improved. The overall physical condition improved simultaneously with its knowledge of how to build an advance base.

In August, 1943, the Eightieth landed on "Island X." The medical department once again were required to function in cramped quarters, but was comforted by the knowledge that construction of the Battalion Dispensary was going forward with all speed permitted by the priorities system. Meanwhile the special problems encountered by doctors in the tropics soon appeared and among the diseases to be dealt with were fungus infections which are most common and often serious, and chills and fever, not necessarily cat fever. In November, with ill-concealed satisfaction, we moved into the completed Eightieth Battalion Dispensary, erected as planned by Dr. Tesoriero. At long last we

Continued on page 119

SPORTS

As early as "Boot Camp" Allen days, the men of the 80th have enjoyed some form of athletic activity; not always of the organized type one would find on a professional set-up, but nevertheless, it was a feeling of anticipation and expectation to know there was equipment available.

Within the boundary lines of Camp Allen, the men were able to throw the old pigskin or play catch with baseball. The outstanding feature was the well equipped gymnasium at the Seabee Recreation Building that proved the athlete's dream. Plenty of discoveries were made in reference to the athletic ability of the men. Some proved to be excellent baseball, basketball, ping-pong, football players and boxers. Inter-company basketball began, but before a schedule was compiled, the 80th shoved off for an Advance Military Training Camp, known to the Seabees the world over as the Quonset Hut Village at Camp Bradford, Little Creek, Virginia. The first impression of Camp Bradford was sufficient to convince us that the training here would build anyone's stature to endure most anything. Sports was a myth at Bradford, although there was an excellent field for softball and baseball games. The season was too early for such sports and both officers and men settled for a "Smoker" at the Recreation Hall. Appearing on the program were many of the 80th's Battlers, some of whom became popular both in and out of the ring.

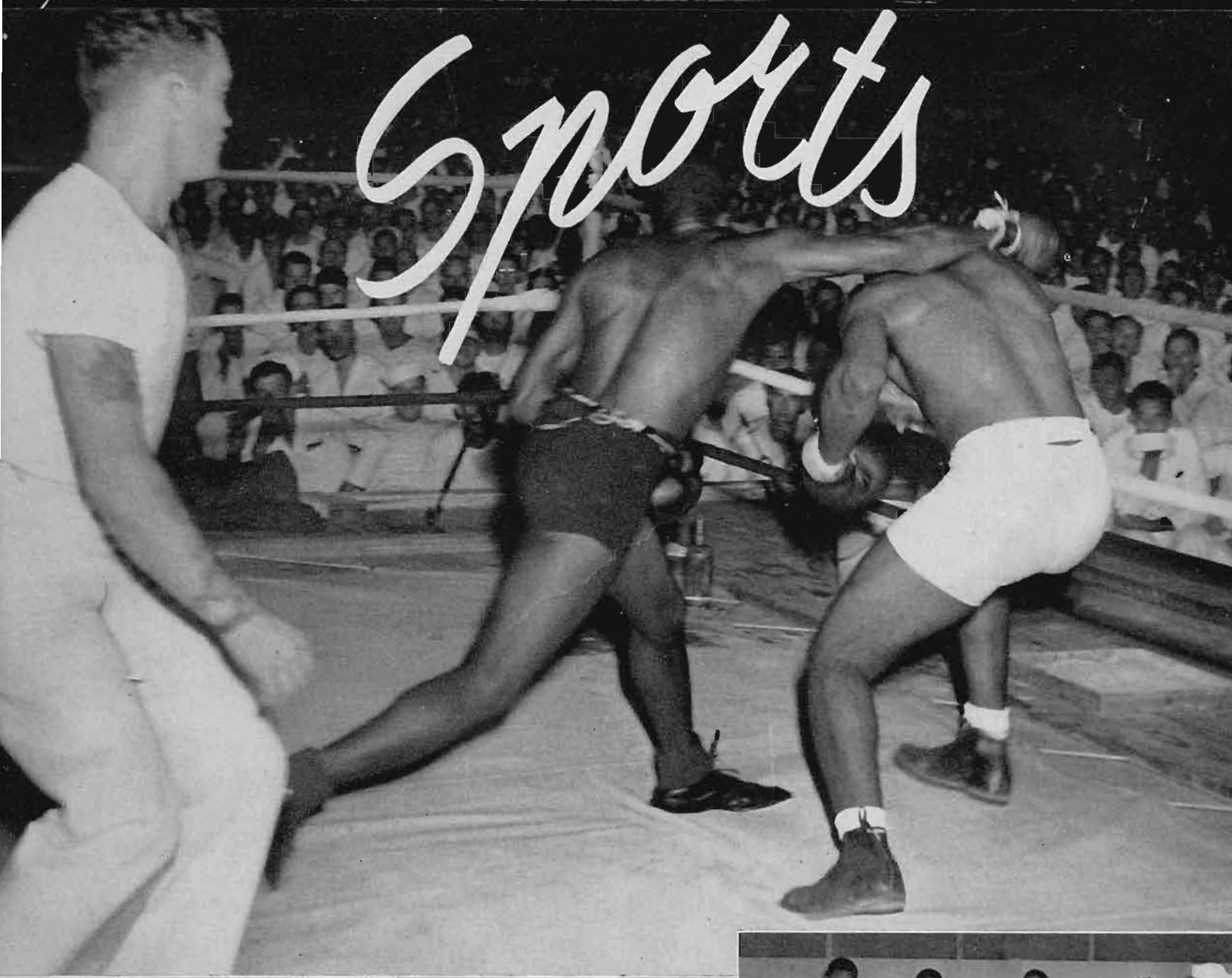
Much credit is due Lt. (jg) W. R. Bloss, Jr., Welfare Officer, and Lt. J. E. Jordan as the third man in the ring, for the phenomenal success of the first program sponsored by the 80th.

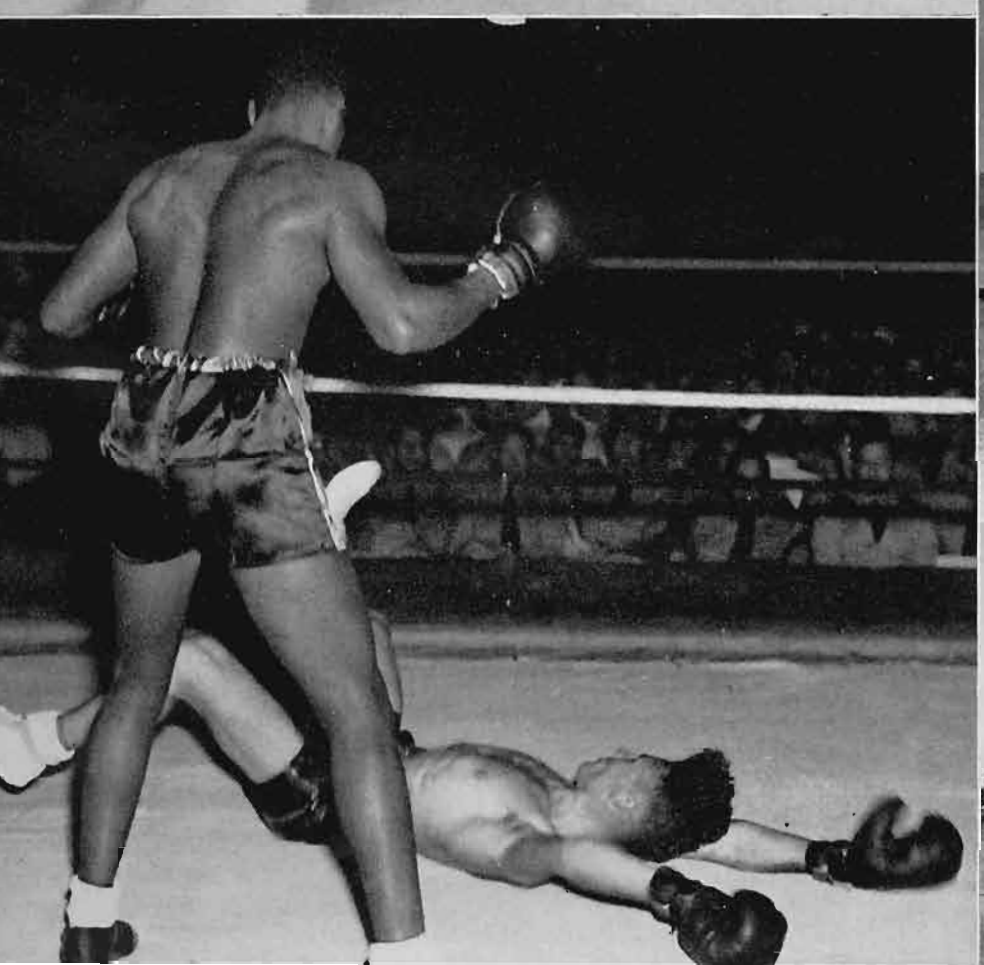
Lt. (jg) F. D. Leigh was appointed Athletic Officer at Bradford in February 1943. It was at this time, that the 80th was furnished athletic equipment and Lt. Leigh had the task of planning the athletic program, sufficiently to be of benefit to everyone. Lt. Leigh's ability as an athletic officer was excellent. He lettered in baseball for three seasons while in college and from all appearances he has spent plenty of time on a football field and basketball court. At Gulfport, Lt. Leigh disclosed the fact that the sports program for the 80th was well developed and still growing. Boxing and baseball had been the feature sports up to that time, but many other forms of recreation were in the offing. Although the time alloted for athletics had been restricted, due to extended training, a formidable boxing team was whipped into shape and ready to swing into action against all challengers. Those representing the 80th's "Leather Slingers" were: James D. Shans, Cox; Earnest A. Reed, S1c; Edward "L" Cotton, S1c; and George "W" Kelly, S1c; and what an enviable record they achieved at Gulfport! Yes, some of the mates were fortunate in being able to find time to use the tennis courts. Our Chief Storekeeper Wylie "R" Holloway of Disbursing and Lt. V. W. Sills, Company "C" Commander, were seen several times driving the ball over the net. Lt. Sills has a lot "on the ball."

Intra-mural baseball was a great feature at Gulfport between the companies and other activities stationed at the advanced Base Depot. Commander Harry Cantey Jr., our "Skipper," could be seen at every game in the rooters' stand, when not playing. Great interest was shown at these games with Company "C" winning the league. At this point, the 80th took off from ABD headed for Island "X".

At our Island "X" home, Lt. Leigh, with the assistance of J. Shans and R. Hicks began immediately securing recreation tents and constructing athletic fields for immediate use. Lt. Leigh indicated that all work and no play wasn't going to make our "Macs" dull boys. Things began to spring up like mushrooms.
Carpenter R. H. Mount started sifting out the boxing material in his charge and the result was Big Reed coming through with flying colors in his appearance at NAS as did "Kid" Cotton. Carp. Mount was really proud of his boys. A new discovery was made in R. Harris who just couldn't score, but always put on a fine show. Jimmie Shans, brother of the famed Cleo Shans, could always hold the audience's eye and to pack the house on each occasion. An article written about Shans entitled, "Here's One for the Records" made the Seabee News Service, a publication distributed to all Island "X" Activities.

Sports





CHAPLAIN'S PAGE

The Chaplain's Office of the 80th began to function on 27 February 1943 in a quonset hut at Camp Bradford. The Chaplain was the last of the original officers to be assigned. As considerable work had accumulated prior to his arrival, B. J. Lewis, MM2c from Co. "A" was assigned for temporary duty to assist him, and continued as assistant for the remainder of our time at Camp Bradford.

At the Advance Base, the Chaplain's office was set up on the top-side in the Administration Building. After the first few weeks of intensive training, marches, etc., M. E. Hall, CM1c, was assigned to duty with the Chaplain. Here our religious activities were combined with those of other Battalions under direction of the Station Chaplain. Services were held in the Armed Guard Theatre.

One of the high points of activity in the Chaplain's office here was the marriage of Percy Lee Smith to his home-town sweetheart. The ceremony took place in the Chaplain's office with many guests present including two Commanders, a Lieut. Commander and several other officers. When the bride and groom left the building, the Guard Company rendered military honors by providing an archway of crossed rifles for the bride and groom to walk under as they went to the Red Cross car that took them to their home in Gulfport.

In our Island "X" Camp, the Chaplain's office and library were set up in a quonset hut and Horatius Smith, PhaM2c, was added to the staff. When Smith was detached for duty elsewhere, J. S. Morris, S2c, took his place. A mess hall was converted into a chapel. In recent months a choir under the direction of C. H. Hawkins, CM2c, provided special music each Sunday.

The various Welfare Activities are pictured in this book and are self explanatory.

The chief aim of this department has been to lead men in the worship of Almighty God, and it is the sincere desire and prayer of the Chaplain and his entire staff that the men of the Battalion continue while in service and throughout life, to worship and serve Jesus Christ in sincerity and truth.

Chaplain Sargent.

MALARIA CONTROL

This group picture shows the Laboratory, and gives a general idea of the work involved in Malaria Control. Also, on page 111 is a very interesting article.

MALARIA CONTROL

The Trinidad home of the 80th was located in an area known to be infested with malaria. However, this situation was effectively alleviated by a control program which was started prior to the Battalion's occupancy of the area, and was continued during its stay.

The program was organized and administered by the Malaria Control Officer, Lt. M. R. Cowper. The various details of the field and laboratory activity were handled by J. T. Pickle, CM1c, assisted by trained Battalion technicians and additional assistance in malaria discipline was obtained through a camp maintenance crew, also working under the direction of Pickle.

The success of the 80th's malaria control program was largely due to the splendid cooperation and help obtained from the Navy's resident Malaria Control Officers, Lt. C. E. Pederson and Lt. (jg) R. J. Duke. Their aid in training personnel and in giving technical suggestions was of utmost importance.

Upon arrival at camp site, the area was found to be greatly infested with both anophles and the pestiferous types of mosquitoes. A well designed system of drainage was immediately started in the camp area, which in due time embraced areas sufficiently close to the camp to become dangerous. As the drainage developed, another parallel program backfilled the numerous small holes and water pockets not tapped by the ditches.

As tents, quonset huts and other buildings were constructed, the Malaria Control Crew was careful to check the ground covered to see that no mosquito breeding waters remained. Following this precaution each installation was completely screened and made quite "mosquito-proof." The 80th's personnel was also protected by a series of rules demanding the use of bed-nets, proper maintenance and care of tents, the use of protective clothing and repellants. Each tent was sprayed nightly with insecticides, regular details being furnished from each company for this activity.

The Malaria Control Crew made daily mosquito-larval surveys of places within a one mile radius of camp. Areas bearing larvae were either drained or sprayed every sixth day with a larvacide.

The most important vector found in large numbers was the anopheles aqusalis; many less important specimen of the same geneis were also discovered to breed in close proximity to the camp. These include: anopheles oswaldoi, anopheles albitarsis and anopheles neomaculipalpus.

Dr. V. J. Tesoriero, Regimental Malaria Control Officer, and the Battalion's Senior Medical Officer, was high in his praises of the effective work rendered through Malaria Control Activities. His reports revealed that this Battalion's rate of infection was far below the average for the Island, and many months passed without a single case being reported.

THE MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION UNIT AT N.A.A.F.

The Eighteenth personnel assigned to supervise and conduct the operation of the N. A. A. F. maintenance department have done their work quietly, efficiently and well.

Maintaining naval facilities in extensive use daily their duties extend over a considerable area. Along with the general maintenance work they do on over 100 buildings, they keep navy refrigeration and air conditioning equipment, motors, field lighting on runways and taxiways and galley equipment in good order. They have reconstructed buildings for the use of such activities as the Ship's Service and Small Stores. In the cantonment area, the colas walks, tennis courts, baseball diamond and recreation hall have all been built by this department.

The beginning of this year found 288 men engaged in these activities. Of these, Warrant Officer W. I. Smith, the officer in charge, his assistant C. S. F. W. E. Druiblet and 25 men came from the Eighteenth Battalion, and six first class from the N. A. A. F. completed the naval personnel. In addition 255 native employees worked in various capacities under the direction of their respective department heads.

The Officers of the Eighteenth and of the other naval units at Carlsen Field will have many memories of the able craftsmanship of these men and of Trinidad brought back when they remember the work done by this organization; whether it be—sign painting—sheet metal-welding—plumbing—carpenter or electrical work —or some little article of remembrance which may have been made here.

The discipline and the interest which these men have in their work along with the cooperation with which the various departments operate has made assignment with this organization a pleasant one.

CENSORS

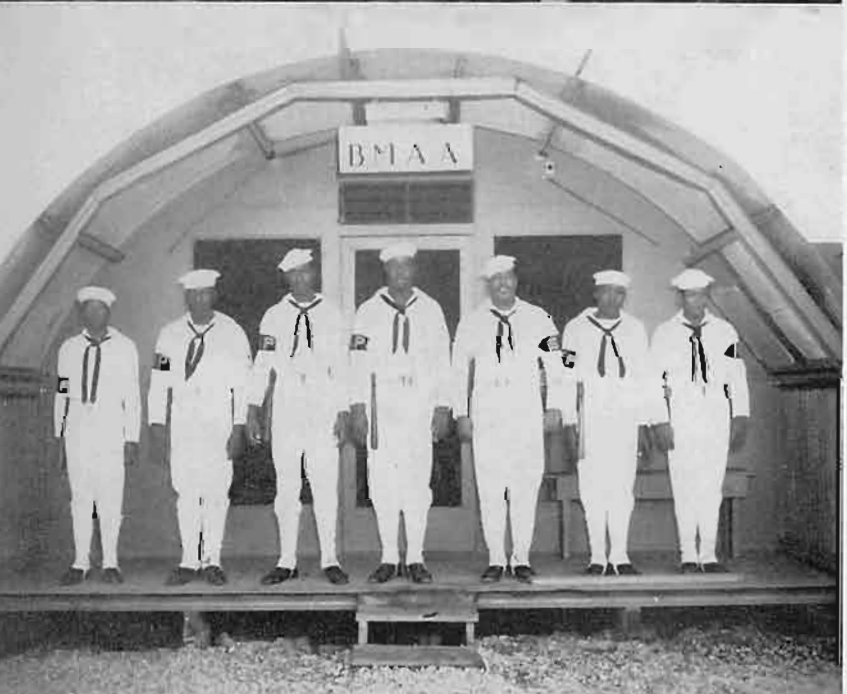
You won't believe it, but actually the censor is as impersonal in reading your letter as you are in eyeing a potato, or trying on someone else's hat. He's not interested in HOW you say it but in WHAT YOU SAY or whether you might, inadvertently or not, tell something to the enemy that might endanger the lives of the men in our forces. He is trained, too, in the ways of the ingenious young men who like to "pull a fast one" on censorship. There are over 50 ways listed in Navy censorship regulations to break down the many codes and other obscure little methods that are tried (——tried but rarely with their intended success).

Censors have a name for those who insist on writing home all the scuttlebutt about the prospective movements of their unit—**"Flibbertigibbets,"** which means "frivolous, gossiping women." Harmless enough it seems, but this may be just the information the enemy needs to piece together the significance of your unit's military value. So "have a care"!

The Censor Staff, under the direction of Communications Officer, Lieut. (jg) S. N. THOMPSON, lines up the muster this way:

1.	Robert E. Manley	SF1c	Co. "B"
2.	James R. Barnes	CM1c	Co. "C"
3.	Sam Y. Hicks	CM1c	Co. "A"
4.	James W. McLeod	WT1c	Co. "C"
5.	Reagan Williams	M1c	Co. "D"
6.	Nicholas Tirone	CM1c	Co. "B"

(Ed. Note: Just half the size of the usual jury but they give you a square decision always! They can be a "Scissors Sextet" but only if you're a "Rule Runner-Arounder.")

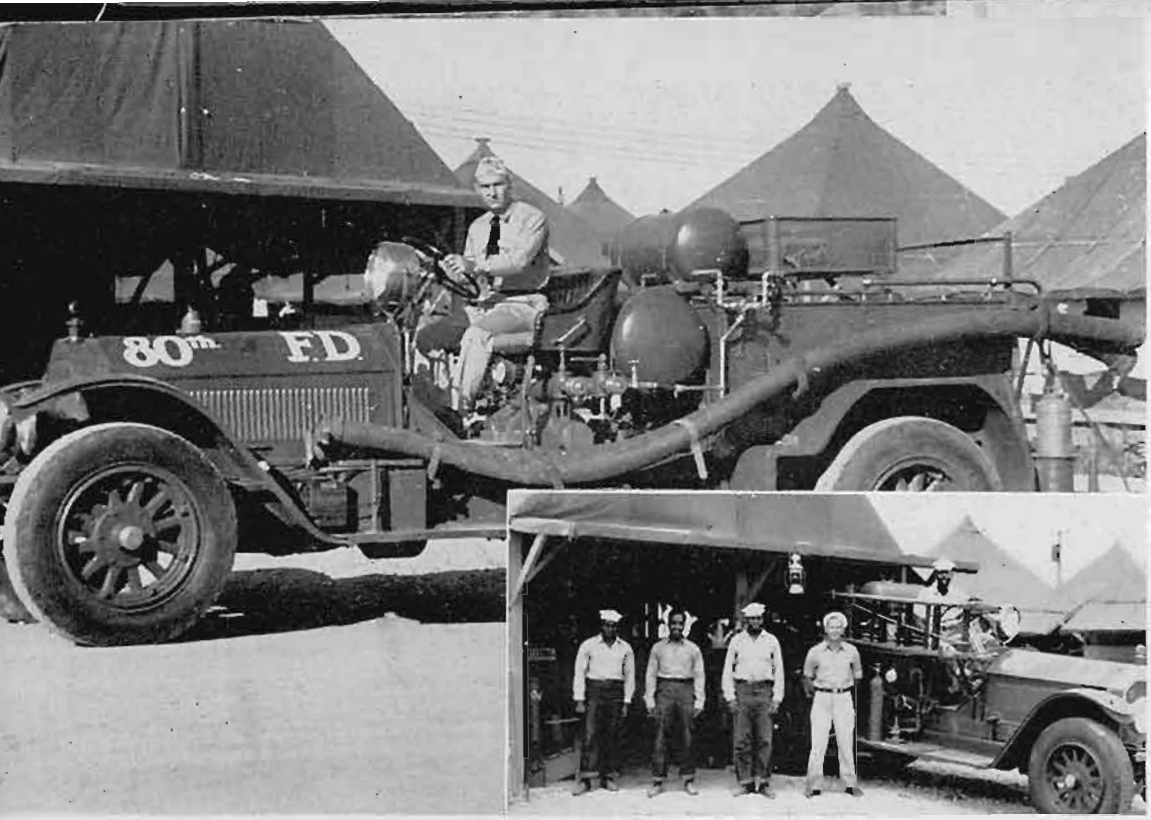


POST OFFICE

The 80th Naval Construction Battalion Post Office was opened in Camp Bradford, Virginia. It was put into full operation on Island "X" in August, 1943.

In its comparatively short time in operation it has handled over $12,000.00 in stamps and close to $115,000.00 in Money Orders, a total of over $127,000.00. Under the direction of Lt. (jg) Sterlin N. Thompson, Communications Officer, the Post Office has been efficiently operated, and has received the rating of 4.0 from all the Postal Inspectors in this District.

The personnel consists of: Rolando B. Slaughter, sp(M)2c, Navy Mail Clerk; Regino D. Llapitan, Sp(M)2c, Assistant Navy Mail Clerk; Arthur Lee Thomas, S1c, Transportation and Directory; Kenneth G. Wheaton, S1c, Transportation and Directory.



80TH

Smoke-eaters say . . .
"Fire Prevention
Day is Every Day"

The 80th "smoke-eaters" celebrated their first anniversary on 1 March 1944. The men are proud of the department and the growth it has made under the leadership and watchful guidance of H. J. Weaving, BM1c, Fire Chief.

During the past year the department has grown from a bucket brigade to a 550 gallon Chrysler pump, and now has a 750 gallon American-LaFrance Pumper.

Throughout the camp, fire hose, fire extinguishers and water barrels are placed at strategic intervals. A twenty four hour watch is maintained at the fire station while fifty Security Guards, all well trained fire fighters, act as auxiliary firemen.

The fire station is centrally located and reminds one of the "village fire house" where men gather after hours to spin yarns about the time "when they were boys." Here, however, the "No Loitering" order is enforced. Our fighting men of the fire department are Elijah Caldwell, F1c; Robert Bud Long, S1c; Leroy Cunningham, S1c, and William F. Cook, S1c.

Seabees Capture Cat Island

What does it matter if the enemy they have so valiantly conquered was only Carp. H. E. Webb and his detail of Seabee "Japs" who had preceded us to the island and the "enemy" planes were from a nearby Coast Guard base. It has been a long arduous day and everyone turns in with a satisfied feeling of having done a good day's work and the knowledge that the next morning will see the start of a big construction program that we are to undertake.

After a good night's sleep, all men report to their company commanders to get their various assignments and start to work. Company A, under the leadership of Lt. Henry A. Bennett, is to tackle a heavy program of constructing an ammunition magazine, a 90 foot radio mast, two fuel storage tanks as well as a large water tank and a wood-frame administration building.

Lt. E. L. Roberts is in charge of the B Company projects which includes a landing strip for patrol bombers and fighter planes and which is to be surfaced with pierced steel plank. Dummy pursuit planes are to be built on hard standings adjacent to the runway. Company B men are also to set up the radio phone and are to work under the direction of an army detachment in improving a camp-site at the other end of the island. In addition to these projects, both companies are joined together to build gun emplacements for the 20 mm. anti-aircraft guns.

Everyone realizes that it will take the best efforts of all men present to complete the various projects in the four days allotted, so it isn't long before all the jobs are humming. The working conditions are far from ideal. The sun beats down mercilessly on the hot sand, and, of course, doesn't miss us. We get sand in our clothes, our hair, our eyes, everywhere it seems—and there is always a call for a tractor to help pull out a truck that is stuck in the deep, loose sand. Only the jeeps and Dr. Tesoriero's ambulance seem to be able to go where they please without regard to the sand. Mosquitoes do their share towards making life miserable, especially to the guards who have to wear nets over their heads and everyone has to sleep under a mosquito net.

However, the work moves along smoothly and as the third day draws to a close it is easy to see that wonderful progress has been made. All the gun emplacements, the radio mast, the 1000-bbl. oil storage tank, the ammunition magazine and "Administration" near completion. The steady hum of bulldozers and graders on the landing strip have it smoothed out and ready for the pierced plank surface. Only the 10,000-bbl. storage tank seems to be behind schedule and so every available man is put to work on this task. These Seabees, with their "Can Do" motto, refuse to admit that it's possible to fail to complete this task in the allotted time, and begin working shifts ranging from 10 to 18 hours with only time out for meals and a few minutes rest occasionally.

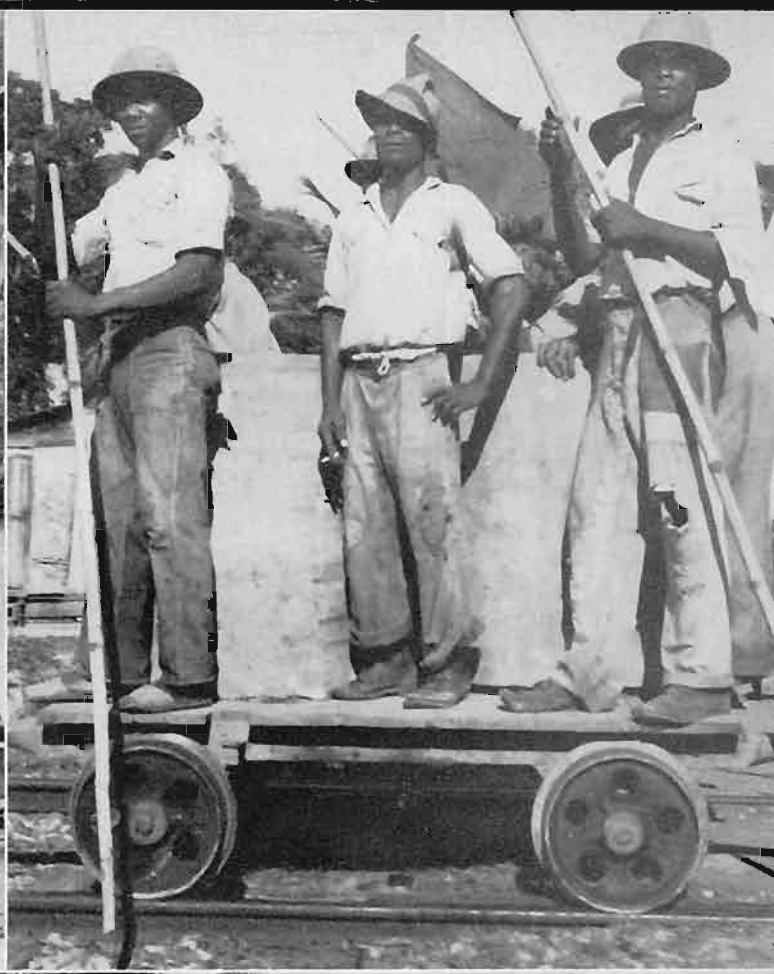
The next day sees the finish of all the other projects. As they are completed, Lt. (jg) Jack McCausland and his crew get busy and, with the use of burlap, wire netting, shrubs, grass and trees, effectively camouflage them so they cannot be seen should enemy bombers pay us a visit.

Despite the hard work and long hours most all the men find "time-out" each day to take a swim along the rolling sandy beach. Others are seen wading out in the surf with rod and reel seeking a nice trout for their supper. Joe Altimore, CM1c, is generally recognized as the champion fisherman with Paul Fly, M1c, and Ens. Higgins as close runners-up and between them they bring in several nice strings of fish. Still others, notably Lt. (jg) Jordan and Victor Walker, MM1c, are out late at night with strong flashlight and gig, wading along the edge of the beach, spearing flounders which are found lying on the bottom in the shallow water. Oysters, too, though rather small, are plentiful and many small fires dot the camp area as the Seabees discover that they're delicious when roasted in the shell in hot ashes. These moments of relaxation help relieve the tension of the long hours of work on the big 10,000-bbl. tank which seems to defy all efforts to finish it before we are scheduled to break up camp. But as dawn breaks on the final morning it is rapidly nearing completion and only a few more bolts remain to be tightened and the camouflaging work to be done before it will be finished.

Immediately after morning chow comes the order to break camp and start loading all galley equipment, gear, and rolling stock aboard the barge for the return trip to ABD. This work proceeds rapidly and by noon everything is loaded. Only as the last truck is being driven onto the barge do we see the tired but triumphant Seabees who have just finished the large tank come trudging through the deep sand toward the barge. As the last man gets aboard we shove off. 'Tis a rugged crew that's going back, burned brown by a week spent in the open under that hot sun, and at present showing little evidence of those swims in the surf. But a razor, a bar of soap and a hot shower will do wonders for them in a few minutes.

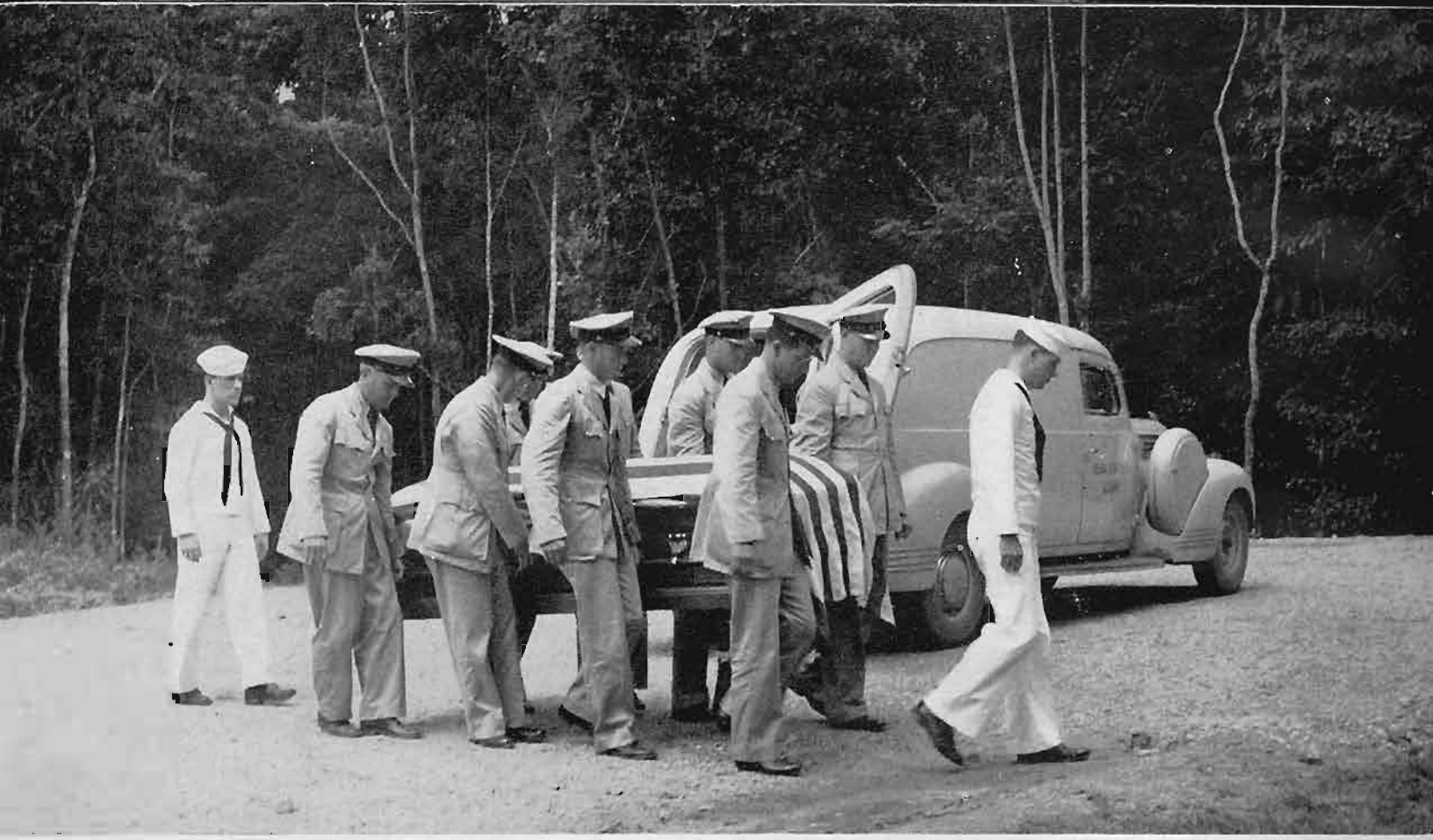
We make good time on the return trip but it seems like a long time. It's beginning to get dark as we finally tie up to the pier in Gulfport. The Seabees unload in a miraculously short time for they are anxious for that hot shower and the most important thing of all—Saturday night liberty in Gulfport. . . . .

Lt. (jg) G. M. Carter.



ISLAND SCENES

Three views showing natives in their primitive tasks typical of the scenes encountered throughout the island by the Seabees.

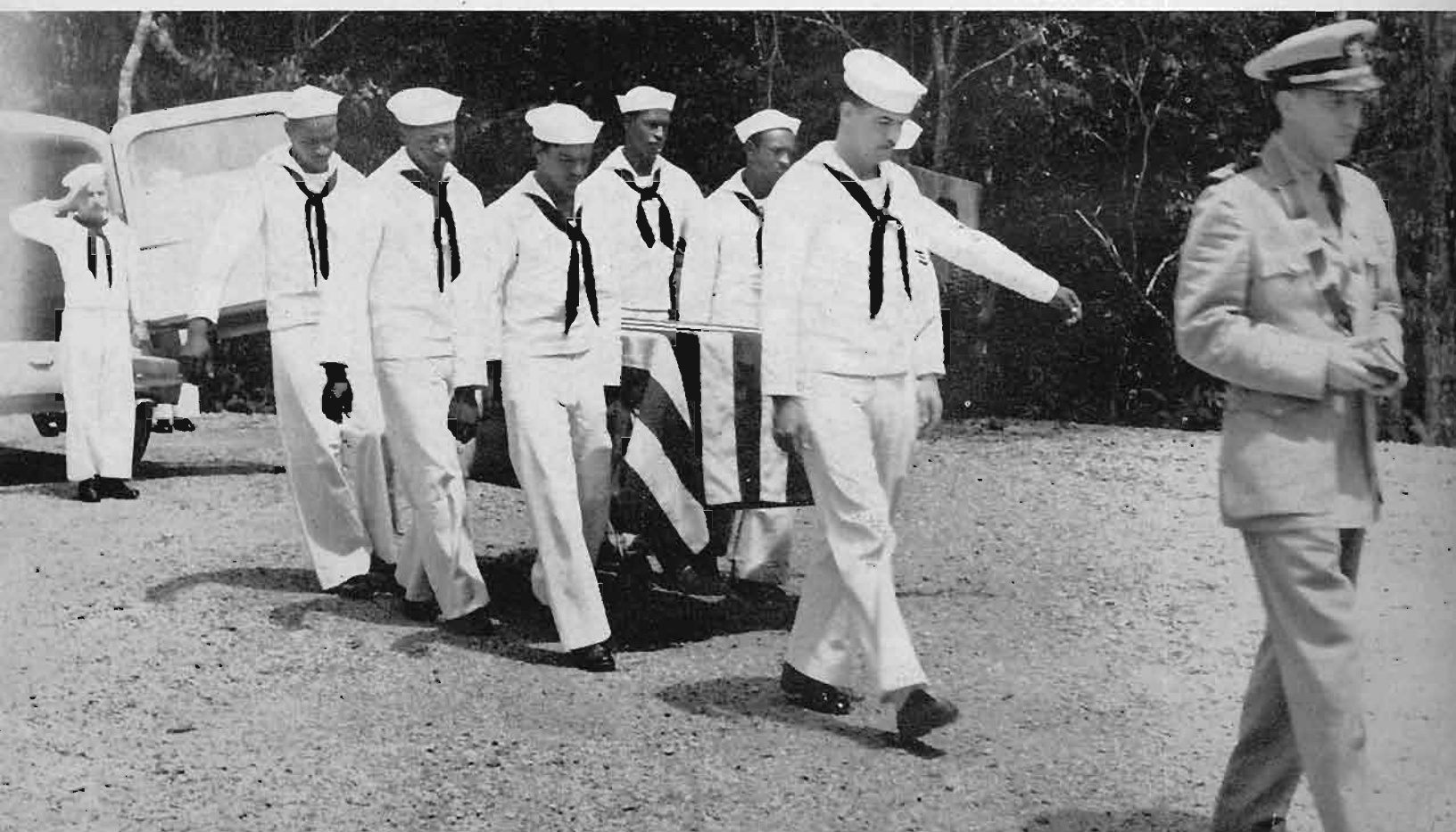


In Memoriam

E. W. Nicholas, Chief Carpenter's Mate

Arthur Eleon Lamm, Chief Machinist's Mate

Andrew Joseph Hopkins, Carpenter's Mate Second Class



W.A.A.F.

Visitors

AMONG THOSE PRESENT

The 80th Construction Pro
ject, and their own interest
in the Navy and Seabees
were veritable magnets
which attracted a host o
distinguished visitors. Among
the most prominent was Mrs
Roosevelt. You could almos
see the message travel the
length of the camp as ou
First Lady was met by ou
Skipper, Comdr. Harry Can
tey, Sunday morning, 1
March, accompanied by
Chief of Staff C. R. Crutche
and official party.

When the party headed fo
the movie theatre it was im
mediately filled to capacity
and when Comdr. Cantey in
troduced our honored guest
she brought a personal mes
sage from the Commander
in-Chief. The President thank
ed the 80th personally for the
great work they had done
and wished them all the bes
of luck.

Mrs. Roosevelt was accom
panied by her Secretary
Miss Malvina Thompson.

DISBURSING — HARVARD STYLE

Back in the other corner of the room, behind an adding machine and yards of tape about the desk and floor, sits the newcomer to the office force, Henry H. Hepburn, SK3c, the keeper of book No. 2, containing accounts numbered 350 through 799. "Hep" has the task of totalling all of the pay receipts after each pay day and keeping these receipts in chronological order.

Lieut. Alexander received orders in January, 1944, to the effect that he was to be detached from the battalion by a relieving officer. This unexpected news came as a shock to the entire disbursing office force. When the day of his departure came he left us all with regret and a genuine impression of sincerity and good will.

Ensign Bruce M. Jones, SC-V(G), USNR, of Streator, Illinois, the relieving disbursing officer, has taken the helm capably and well. Having been a practicing attorney in civilian life, Mr. Jones has been designated as the legal officer for this command.

Yes, the pay crew of the Eightieth Battalion has a new guiding light, and will follow him unhesitatingly and assist him to receive the "Well Done, Continue" signal from the Navy Department.

Ens. B. M. Jones and O. W. Browne.

★ ★ ★

SAGA OF THE SICK BAY

were able to treat a large percentage of the sick ourselves, thereby eliminating many unnecessary sick days involved in transferring patients to and from a busy Navy Hospital forty miles away.
Our construction battalion allotment of supplies proved adequate to outfit a large sick call and minor surgery room. Pharmacist's Mate Jack Pogue, a graduate pharmacist, began turning out blood counts and various potions in the pharmacy and lab. The typewriter sputtered steadily in the record room, where Pharmacist's Mate John Whittaker manned the keys. In the spacious dental office, Dr. M. M. Tanner, assisted by L. C. "Pete" Pittore, PhM1c, dental technician, corrected the dental troubles of the men. In time we fitted out our surgery, where a wide variety of surgical procedure appeared, and was competently treated. As a result of our experienced personnel and the facilities now at hand, our sick list at the Naval Hospital at Tucker Valley dropped from an all time high of sixty in August, 1943, to an average of twenty, which represented the irreducible minimum.

Meanwhile the various disease prevention measures were not neglected. Malaria control was vigorously carried on from the beginning by Lt. M. R. Cowper assisted by Carpenter's Mate First J. T. Pickel, et al, and the incidence of that debilitating fever has been gratifyingly low. Accidents on a job of this type will always occur, but Safety Engineer Lt. (jg) W. R. Bloss, Jr., has been active in instituting measures to keep injuries at a minimum. Contagious skin diseases and "trench mouth," which tend to occur among men living close together, have been seen only on rare occasions, attributed to the Navy policy of frequent inspection of galleys, mess halls and living quarters.

In general the Eightieth has been a healthy outfit. We are glad to have shared in making it so.

Doc Johnson.

★ ★ ★

THE RIFLE RANGE HIKE

We turned into the gate and curved around the road between the barracks till all the column had marched into camp. Those primitive tarpaper covered barracks and the sight of the bare iron springs of the bunks were one of the most welcome sights imaginable. Short work was made of directing men to their assigned quarters and the hike was over. The Docs and corpsmen did a landslide business in treating feet that had carried their owners a good thirty-five miles in a little over a day and a half.

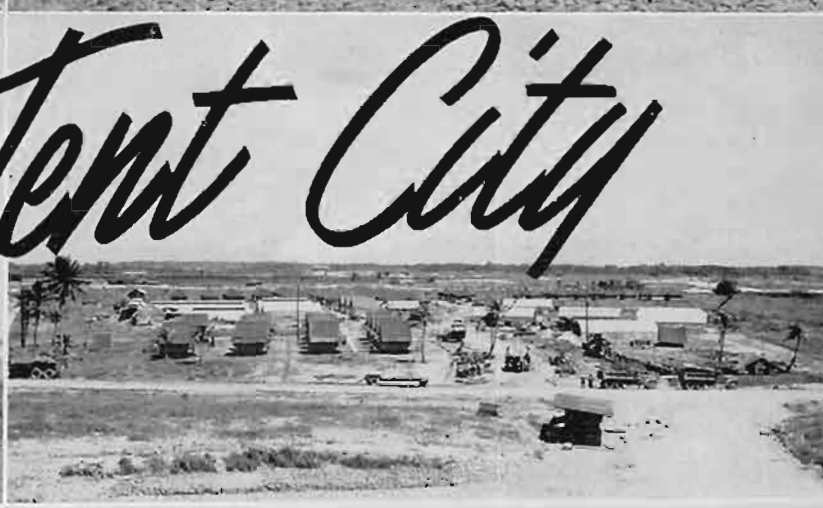
"What's that racket, Mac?" "Chow call! Hot Chow call! Come on—real eats!" Surprising that guys so droopy just a few minutes ago and exhibiting raw, blistered feet, could sprint fifty yards to the chow hall. But they did. You should know, Mac, weren't you the guy who jumped the ditch and vaulted the railing to nose out that guy for first place!

Lt. (jg) W. R. Bloss, Jr.

PITCH LAKE

On the Island of Trinidad near La Brea is the largest natural Pitch Lake in the world, yielding great quantities of asphalt. It is estimated that the lake covers an area of approximately one hundred four acres. From the center of the lake the pitch bubbles up from a subterranean source, providing tons of material used in asphalt paving.

HEADQUARTERS ACTIVITIES

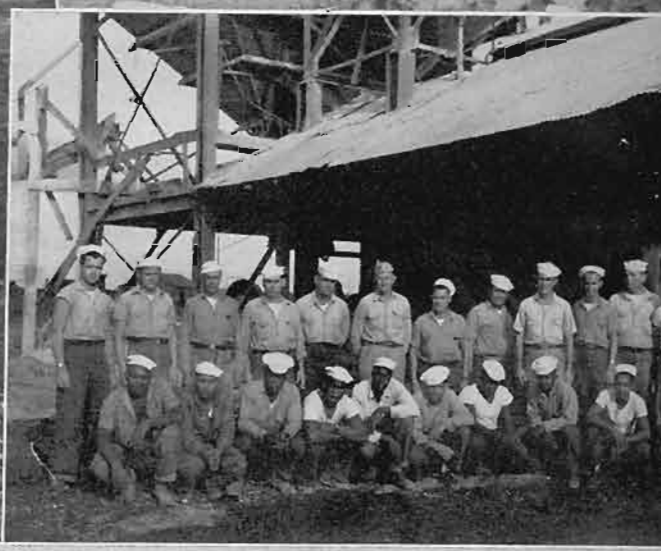


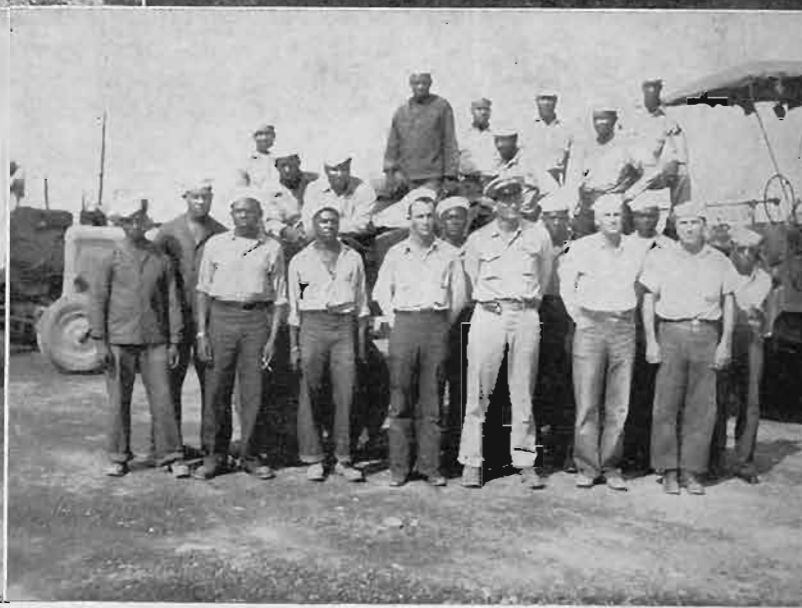
Tent City

TENT CITY

Beginning during the tropical rainy season and starting from scratch, the 80th Battalion was probably the one Seabee outfit to develop from a quagmire a mobile housing unit as comfortable as any such unit can be. Wood, canvas, steel and stone were used in transforming Tent City to its present attractiveness and comfortable facilities.

Grading & Paving



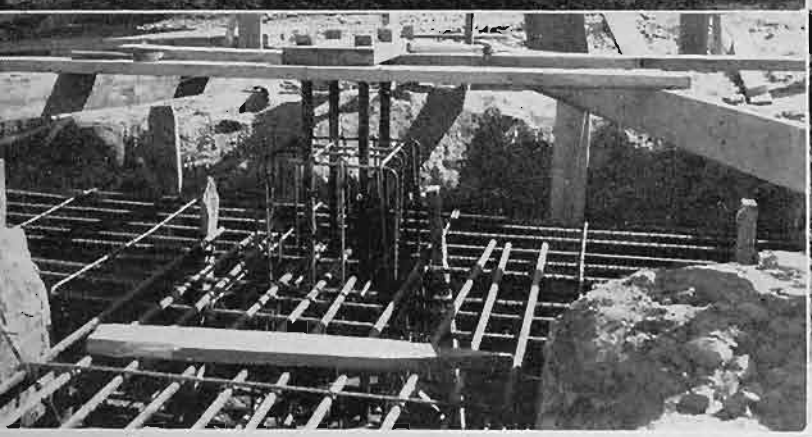


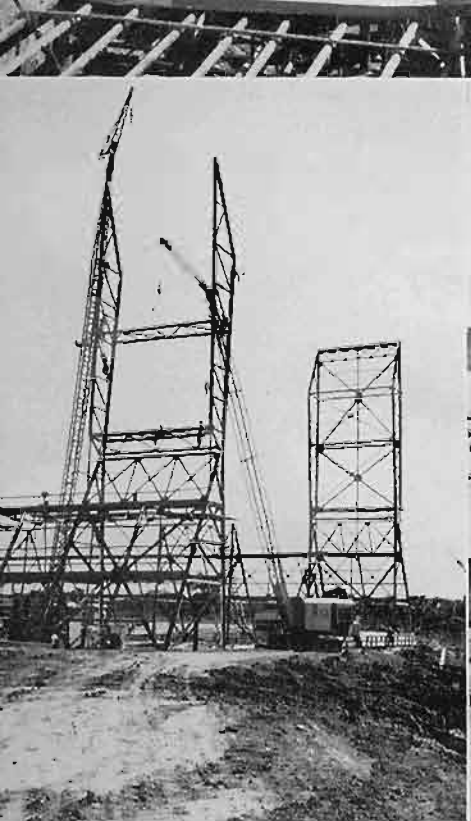
The drainage, grading and paving of runways, taxiways, roads and other areas in connection with the new LTA hangar made up a major portion of the 80th's construction activities. This work was performed entirely by the battalion's own personnel, supervised by Lt. M. R. Cowper, who was aided at times by Carp. W. A. Skinner. The work was carried out by a group of highly skilled and energetic chiefs, whose knowledge and experience of heavy construction was responsible for the high quality and efficient work completed.

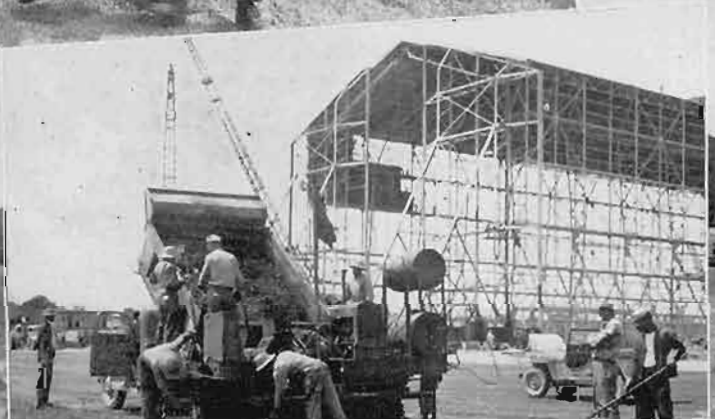
Grading

Approximately 250,000 cu. yds. of dirt were moved on a two-shift basis. The handling of this amount of

continued on page 125







SUPPLY DEPARTMENT

The major problem now was securing Battalion supplies, equipment and materials for Island "X," for it was time to say "adieu" to the United States. This important job was facilitated by the timely appearance of C. M. Travis, CSK, of McAllen, Texas. Chiefs Latta and Travis kept the ball rolling with Lt. Huntsberry as the general adviser. It was a task that seemed never to end, preparing a manifest for the battalion that included box numbers, cube, weight and description of every item to be brought by the battalion to Island "X". Items ranging from shoe strings to convoy trucks and personal gear were checked and stored in the ship. The few "leisure hours" we had aboard ship were heavenly because we visualized the task before us on Island "X".

Arriving at Island "X" and moving out to the camp site we found that it was necessary to have additional help. With the reorganization of the department, J. W. Holinsworth, CCM, was assigned to the warehouse in Chaguaramas with A. H. Turner, CM2c, of Detroit, Mich., E. H. Bland, S1c, of Troy, N. Y., and R. T. Sterling, S1c, to help him. Chief Travis was assigned to the warehouses at the camp site with Lyons, R. M. Grant, Cox., of Houston, Texas, E. Ashmore, S1c, of England Ark., E. E. Kirpatrick, SF1c, E. R. Barnett, Ptr3c and J. S. Rowland, S1c. Oscar Conners, SK2c, was given the Provision job with W. E. Woods, SK3c, and P. M. Nero, SK3c, in the Issue Room; J. S. Laster, SK3c, was in charge of Small Stores; C. E. L. M. Sargent, SK2c, was in charge of keeping up the files, records, issues of materials, shoes, tools, requisitions and delivery tickets. To help secure provisions from the different store rooms on the base, P. Bynum, SK3c, of New York City, N. Y., E. C. Vaughn, S1c, of Philadelphia, Penn., and J. S. Coppock, SF3c, of Jacksonville, Fla., were assigned to help Conners. C. L. Jackson, SK2c, was assigned to the Gear Locker.

Chief Latta was made Warrant Pay Clerk which meant he was leaving the Supply Department of the 80th Battalion. We wondered why we had to be treated thus but we knew that Mr. Latta had done a "bang-up" job and it was only fair to release him to some other activity. We bade farewell to Mr. Latta on 18 February. The progress of the Supply Department continued. Chief Travis again walked in and is carrying on in a great way. Nothing upsets him. His cool manner is an inspiration in the office and the work rolls on.
Sailing under the direction of Lt. Huntsberry and Chief Travis we believed that the storm was over, however, in the still of the night Mr. Huntsberry received orders to pack up. His time with the 80th had come to an end. We wondered what the new Supply Officer would be like. Aboard came Chester A. Oehler, Ens. SC, USNR, of San Antonio, Texas. In leaving, Lt. Huntsberry was happy and sad. His only wish is to find men in his new assignment as cooperative as the men of the 80th Supply Department.

Ensign Oehler is another man who takes things easy and coolly. Says he: "By the Good Book, we will carry on the work of the Supply Department." We hope that our next assignment will be sending death to the Axis. Ensign Oehler states that will be the best job that he has ever had in his life. We are sure that he is the man to lead the Supply Department on its mission of the destruction of the Axis.

Charles E. Le Moyne Sargent.

★ ★ ★

GRADING AND PAVING

dirt during a tropical wet season was quite an accomplishment. Operators were few when the 80th arrived in Trinidad but outstanding workers were soon transformed into excellent operators to the end that the heavy tractor and scraper units, bulldozers, and graders were constantly in action.

Drainage

In a hot, wet land, such as Trinidad, no work is possible without adequate drainage, and it was necessary for the 80th to install literally miles of ditches of all types. Large drainage channels were excavated for main outlets these were fed by large and small tributaries dug either with light dragline or by hand. Under all the taxiways and runways it was necessary to construct an elaborate system of tile and aggregate subsurface drains.

Subgrade Surfacing and Asphalt Paving

The runways, taxiways and roads built by the 80th were of very stable design, requiring, however, the use of available local materials which were not always of the best desired quality. Irrespective of materials, a good surface was obtained and if given adequate maintenance should wear for many years of service. The rough graded areas to be surfaced were fine graded with the use of temporary forms and a heavy, home-made grade log; the temporary forms served as a gauge for a six inch course of heavy, well compacted road gravel. On this subgrade four inches of gravel, asphalt, plant mix were laid with an old style black top pave. The material was put down in two layers, thoroughly compacted and sealed with a double sand surface treatment.

Batching Plant

The batching plant was operated very efficiently and smoothly under the Seabees. Many tons of aggregate were handled and batched. Among the early services required from this installation by the Seabees was that of unloading and stockpiling vast quantities of various types of aggregate, the dry batching of all concrete, the unloading and reloading of Portland Cement, the operation of the asphalt plant (approximately sixteen thousand tons of asphaltic mix were necessary), the continuous loading of dump trucks, and in many instances the rewashing of aggregates. The batching plant rendered 24-hour service.

HERE COMES THE BRIDE

Top photo shows wedding of the former Miss Alice Rivers and Horace Patterson at A. B. D. Gulfport. Lower photo shows John Squire Thompson and the new Mrs. after the knot was tied at the Immaculate Conception Cathedral at Port of Spain.

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We have endeavored to present for your interest and enjoyment this publication of some of our activities, the things we have done with writings and pictures of many of the places we have visited.

We have depended largely on telling our story with pictures, believing in the old adage that a picture is worth 10,000 words. Space limits the amount of material that we can present in this single volume, but we have selected from the material supplied to us, what we believed would prove most interesting to our readers.

The Staff is indebted to Our Skipper and Chaplain for the "go sign" on this work; to the contributors, notably the Officers, Petty Officers in Charge of Companies and Activities, and to all others who in any way contributed to the success of this book, our appreciation. To Jim Arterburn, BM1c, and Tom McNeely, CY, of Regimental Staff, a special vote of thanks for material and advice.

MYLES J. McHALE, CY, USNR
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The ladies of the Helping Hand Society enjoyed a swap social one evening. The members each brought something they didn't need.
Many of the ladies were accompanied by their husbands.

—o—

Lady: "I just saw a sailor trying to kiss your daughter."
Mother: "Did he succeed?"
Lady: "No."
Mother: "Then it wasn't my daughter."

—o—

Across Purposes Dept.

Jeanie: "Why did you quit teaching school to join the chorus?"
Queenie: "Well, I think there's more money in showing figures to the older boys."

—o—

"Now, my dear," said the fond mother as her son was leaving to join the Navy, "be sure to get up on time every morning, so that the Captain won't have to wait breakfast on you."

—o—

A German was being led to execution by a squad of Russion soldiers one rainy morning.
"What brutes you Russians are," grumbled the doomed one, "to march me through the rain like this."
"What are you complaining about?" retorted one of the squad. "We have to march back."

—o—

Seabee: "I can't give you anything but love."
Girl: "Well, hurry up, let's have it."
Sailor Sam tells of the navy dentist who got a salute of twenty-one gums.
S2c: "This is an incubator chicken."
Chief: "What makes you think so?"
S2c: "No chicken that had a mother could be so tough."

"Mr. S. P., this sailor is annoying me."
"But lady, he isn't even looking at you."
"I know it—that's what's annoying me."

—o—

Americana

British Sentry: "Halt—Who goes there?"
Soldiers: "British soldiers."
British Sentry: "Pass British soldiers."
British Sentry: "Halt—Who goes there?"
Soldiers: "Free French soldiers."
British Sentry: "Pass Free French soldiers."
British Sentry: "Halt—Who goes there?"
Soldiers: "Whoinell wants to know?"
British Sentry: "Pass Yanks."

—o—

Fast Wagon

A Seabee on leave decided to wing it back to his native Oklahoma by commercial plane. At Phoenix the plane made a beautiful landing, and immediately a little red wagon rushed up to refuel it. Next stop was El Paso, and again a little red wagon rushed up. Same thing in Fort Worth. Up dashed the little red gasoline wagon, and the plane was off again. As it cleared the ground a passenger turned to the Seabee and said, "These planes certainly make wonderful time." "Yeah," the Oklahoman drawled, "and that little red wagon ain't doing bad either."

—o—

She: "I'll say you are one of those fierce lovers."
Sailor: "But I haven't even touched you."
Girl: "Yes, and that's fierce!"

—o—

Sailor: "Say, just look at that beautiful girl!"
Marine: "Yes, she's a sight for shore eyes!"

—o—

Seabee: "Where will you meet me tonight?"
Girl: "Half way."

BUY ANOTHER WAR BOND AND BACK UP THE RIGHT SIDE!

Liberty-Hounds